

## The first hotel to open in Lake Forest in 92 years, the North Shore destination is now open

**LAKE FOREST, Ill. (April 7, 2021)** –A contemporary new hotel located at 200 N. Field Dr. in Conway Business Park, The Forester, a Hyatt Place Hotel developed by Janko Group and operated by Janko Hospitality is a one-of-a-kind boutique inspired offering from the Hyatt Place brand. Marking the first hotel to open in the North Shore suburb since 1929, the property's concept is inspired by the city of Lake Forest's motto, "Naturae et Scientiae Amor," which translates to "Love of Science and Nature." The Forester, a Hyatt Place Hotel is at a similarly unique crossroads, offering all the benefits of a Hyatt Place hotel, while at the same time blazing new trails with unique offerings including Oaken Bistro + Bar, an upscale dining experience along with over 4,500 square feet of flexible event space.

Because Hyatt's efforts are grounded in listening and fueled by care, Hyatt Place hotels combine style, innovation and 24/7 conveniences to create an easy to navigate experience for today's multi-tasking traveler. At The Forester, a Hyatt Place Hotel, science and nature are woven throughout from artwork inspired by natural fractals and meeting rooms named after native plants and flowers, to the front desk itself being constructed of a solid, single white oak tree trunk. The property features 156 spacious guest rooms, including 10 suites, each with 55-inch flat-screen Smart HDTVs, complimentary WiFi, mini-fridges, individually controlled heating and air conditioning, blackout curtains, hair dryers, in-room safes and more. The hotel is pet-friendly, and offers complimentary parking to guests in a lot on premises.

"As the picturesque city of Lake Forest continues to grow and thrive economically, we are honored to open the newest hotel in the city in nearly 100 years," said Marlena Karwowski, General Manager, The Forester, a Hyatt Place Hotel. "With our smartly designed social spaces and guestrooms with separate work and sleep areas, our multitasking guests can easily accomplish what they need to do while on the road. Lake Forest has long been at a unique crossroads of preservation and progress by way of open lands backing up to modern office parks and the cobblestone streets of historic Market Square offering coffee shops and retail stores, and this hotel was conceptualized at a similar juncture."

Ideally equipped to host events both large and small, The Forester, a Hyatt Place Hotel boasts three event rooms and a pre-function space all featuring the latest technology. The Lupine Room offers exterior access to an outdoor patio and 1,676-square-feet of space, accommodating up to 186 guests, while The Aster Room, the hotel's largest event space, is able to host up to 200 guests in its 2,232-square-foot space. Best suited for groups of up to 45 guests, The Blue Stem Room offers an intimate 378-square-foot space.

The hotel also boasts a chef-driven, full-service restaurant, Oaken Bistro + Bar, now open for dinner, brunch and cocktails. The modern new bar and lounge area is filled with earth-toned features and foliage-inspired light fixtures at every turn. Led by Executive Chef Kristen Burman, formerly of Limelight Catering and Anthology San Diego, Oaken Bistro + Bar offers a robust menu rooted in flavors both strong and bold, like the many centuries-old White Oak Heritage Trees in Lake Forest. To complement, the restaurant also features an eclectic variety of wine and spirits including signature cocktails, infused with local flowers and herbs. Oaken Bistro + Bar offers diners an inspired menu that, like tree rings, will grow and change seasonally.

### The Forester, a Hyatt Place Hotel also offers:

- **Complimentary breakfast** for guests featuring a variety of pre-packaged or individually wrapped hot and cold breakfast items as well as a paid, dine-in breakfast option in Oaken.
- **The Market** serving freshly prepared meals anytime, day or night
- **Necessities** program for forgotten items that guests can buy, borrow or enjoy for free
- **Free Wi-Fi** throughout hotel and guestrooms
- **Fitness Center** featuring cardio equipment with LCD touchscreens

### THE FORESTER, A HYATT PLACE HOTEL LEADERSHIP

The Forester, a Hyatt Place Hotel is under the leadership of General Manager Marlena Karwowski and Director of Sales Bill Tingle. In her role, Karwowski is directly responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the hotel, including overseeing the hotel's 30 associates and ensuring guests encounter the thoughtful service for which the Hyatt Place brand is known. Tingle is responsible for providing sales service and support to travelers and meeting planners frequenting the Chicagoland area.

Guided by its purpose of care, Hyatt's multi-layered Global Care & Cleanliness Commitment further enhances its operational guidance and resources around colleague and guest safety and peace of mind. More information on Hyatt's commitment can be found here: [hyatt.com/care-and-cleanliness](https://hyatt.com/care-and-cleanliness)

*The term "Hyatt" is used in this release for convenience to refer to Hyatt Hotels Corporation and/or one or more of its affiliates.*

For further information:

For more information, please visit Hyattplace.com and <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/illinois/the-forester-a-hyatt-place-hotel/chizf>, or follow @TheForesterHotel on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

### **About The Forester, a Hyatt Place Hotel**

The first boutique-inspired Hyatt Place hotel in the world, The Forester, located at 200 N. Field Dr., Lake Forest, is open and welcoming guests as of April 2021. A Janko Hospitality entity, The Forester, a Hyatt Place Hotel is a chic new destination for both business and personal adventures to bloom at a unique crossroads of science and nature, just a short distance from Lake Michigan, Lake Forest College, Conway Business Park, Halas Hall and other attractions. The 156-room property flourishes with several amenities, a trailblazing chef-driven restaurant, Oaken Bistro + Bar, extensive event space and more. Intended for locals and visitors to explore the beauty of everything around them, the hotel offers the comfort Hyatt is known for with a special local flavor, emphasizing the Chicago North Shore's native flora and fauna throughout the property's design and offerings. For more information, please visit <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/illinois/the-forester-a-hyatt-place-hotel/chizf>.

### **About Hyatt Place**

Hyatt Place hotels combine style, innovation and 24/7 conveniences to create an easy to navigate experience for today's multi-tasking traveler. Guests can enjoy thoughtfully designed guestrooms featuring distinct zones for sleep, work and play, and free flowing social spaces that offer seamless transitions from work to relaxation. With more than 380 locations globally, Hyatt Place hotels offer freshly prepared food around the clock, efficient service and differentiated experiences for World of Hyatt members. For more information, please visit [hyattplace.com](https://www.hyatt.com). Join the conversation on Facebook and Instagram, and tag photos with #HyattPlace and #WhySettle.

### **About Janko Hospitality**

Founded in 1999, Janko Hospitality, a subdivision of the Janko Group, is a Chicago-based operator of upscale full-service, extended-stay and select-service hotels throughout the Midwest. The dynamic organization, since its inception, has managed brands within the Marriott, Hyatt, Hilton, and IHG brands, with two new hotels in development: The Forester, a Hyatt Place Hotel and the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Lockport. Hotel Business named Janko Hospitality a "Top 100 Management Company" in 2019. Janko Hospitality is a growth company focused on expansion through strategic acquisition, development, and third-party management. With a passion to deliver exceptional and memorable guest experiences, the hospitality group has a proven track record of solid financial performance, honorable community involvement, and an unwavering commitment to quality. Its family-centric culture ensures an excellent experience for all guests, associates, and owners. To learn more, visit [www.jankohospitality.com](https://www.jankohospitality.com).

### **About Janko Group**

Janko Group, founded in 1988, is a privately-owned real estate investment company based in Riverwoods, IL. The firm primarily focuses on adding value to real estate through strategic acquisition, land development, vertical development, and structured finance. Product types include hospitality, industrial, office, retail, self-storage, and single-family residential. Markets include Chicago, Kansas City, Indianapolis, Madison, Milwaukee, and the San Francisco Bay area. Janko Group's experienced senior management team has more than 100 years of collective investment, development, and management experience. In the hospitality sector, Janko Group has acquired and developed hotels totaling more than 1,600 keys across all major brands, including Hyatt, Marriott, Hilton and IHG. Janko Group was awarded Hilton's 2018 New Build of the Year for the Tapestry Collection, Hyatt's 2017 Developer of the Year, and Marriott's 2012 Opening of the Year. To learn more, visit [www.jankogroup.us](https://www.jankogroup.us).

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