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**The Westin New York at Times Square Rounds Out Total Renovation
With Sky-High 45th floor Empire Suite Overlooking NYC,
New Lobby & Foundry Kitchen & Bar**

\$39 Million Multi-Phase, Top-to-Bottom Overhaul Now Complete

New York, NY – August 9, 2016 – The Westin New York at Times Square, which made headlines with its eye-catching design as a new-build in New York City over a decade ago, has unveiled a new 45th floor Empire Suite, stunning lobby and a new culinary concept with the launch of Foundry Kitchen & Bar. The trio of enhancements at the 873-room luxury hotel in the heart of Manhattan's famed Times Square are the topping of a multi-phase, top-to-bottom renovation totaling \$39 million dollars.

The Empire Suite, formerly the Presidential Suite, gets top billing in the renovation, literally and figuratively, as it spans 1,800 square feet atop the hotel, 45 floors above the action of Times Square. With sky-high, sweeping views of Manhattan, the designers created an urban loft that is a chameleon for a variety of functions, from meetings and C-level brainstorming and retreats, to intimate events and cocktail parties. It has a casual elegance that is reflective of its location and is complimented with the use of steel, glass, concrete and metal accents throughout. Highlights of the Empire Suite include a glass writing wall for meetings, a fireplace portal that both highlights and frames the view, and a headboard feature wall to reflect the stunning skyline views. Custom lighting, case goods and artwork by Museum Additions are some of the touches that set this space apart from the other suites. The Empire Suite features one bedroom, a living room, kitchenette and two bathrooms.

The re-energized lobby is certainly a telltale sign that the renovation is complete and this is the *new* Westin New York at Times Square. The ICRAVE design team created a fresh new identity for the space -- certainly the heart of the hotel -- that combines nature-inspired elements with a sophisticated urban design. A pair of 1,000 pound tables made from a salvaged Teak tree in Indonesia are focal points in the lobby; the massive tree trunks serve as a waiting perch for guests as they check in or out. The selection of furniture and the arrangement into what the design team refers to as "camps" was purposeful with all of the hotel's guests in mind: leisure, group and corporate travelers. Couples or families might opt to take over a sofa nook in front of the candlelit fireplace, while business travelers can work and mingle at large communal tables in the lobby's media lounge. An expansive bookcase within the media lounge creates a large textural backdrop while offering up books to read, an invitation of sorts to take a break and enjoy the calm amidst the excitement of Times Square. Camouflaged throughout virtually all of the furniture are convenience outlets and USB ports to meet the new standards and expectations of today's travelers.

The newly launched Foundry Kitchen & Bar, located on the second floor of The Westin New York at Times Square, is a new energy center for the hotel and a favorite gathering spot for guests. Designed to be a respite from Times Square, while having a bird's eye view of the magic that makes this one of the most visited areas of New York City, this modern bar and lounge has fast become a spot where guests and locals alike gather. The menu features house-made shareable plates, from freshly made ricotta with cracked black pepper, sea salt and toasted almonds, to the steel pressed chicken quesadilla and nearly a dozen other choices. There are New York flash-fired pizzas, sandwiches, salads and signature SuperFoods, in addition to Foundry favorites that are a must-try.

As delicious as the food is to taste, the design is something to see. True to the name, old metal pulleys, wheels, and hinges sourced from upstate NY are used as artwork on the walls. The objects have oxidized with use over time, resulting in a beautiful weathered patina that adds a rich textural backdrop to the space. An oversized globe chandelier, stretching nine feet long, is a new beacon for the bar and hotel, captivating and drawing people in from the street. Warm walnut paneling, glossy grey tile, and cracked copper bar die all fuse together to create an industrial feel with polished edges. A glowing bottle walls flank both sides of the bar creating a warm, intimately lit atmosphere, where the cocktail magic happens. The drinks, served with New York distilled rye, gin and other spirits, are hand crafted and served in a cold glass with a warm spirit.

The previous phases of the renovation brought all-new guest rooms and corridors, each featuring custom-designed elements and artwork, as well as 34,000 square feet of meeting and pre-function space and expanded energy conservation practices. Much of the group function space utilizes recycled materials, keeping with the hotel's strong environmentally-friendly values. In staying true to its hometown roots, all consultants on the project, from designers to art advisers and installers, were New York-based.

For more information and to book your stay, please visit www.westinny.com.

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****Photos available in hi-res upon request****





About The Westin New York at Times Square

A distinguished AAA Four Diamond ranked hotel, The Westin New York at Times Square stands at the crossroads of the world and is located at 270 W. 43rd Street amid the brilliance of Broadway. The hotel is within walking distance to over 40 theatres and many famous New York City attractions. All 873 Westin New York at Times Square hotel rooms and suites feature the luxurious Westin Heavenly Bed® and Heavenly Bathsm, and offer incredible views of the city skyline and the Hudson River. The hotel features Foundry Kitchen & Bar, and is interconnected to a 200,000 square-foot entertainment and retail complex featuring movie theaters, restaurants, and shopping. The Westin New York at Times Square was named one of America's Top 10 Healthiest Hotels by Health magazine and is a certified GOLD member of the Green Hotels Association.