## THE RITZ-CARLTON, ALMATY: SPECIAL MENU FOR RAMADAN

On May 6, Muslims welcomed the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan. This special period for believers is accompanied by a sacred period of fasting – a symbol of spiritual and physical purification – which will last until June 4. Each year The Ritz-Carlton, Almaty, with special respect for the holy holiday for Muslims of Kazakhstan, creates a special menu for Ramadan. For guests and residents of the city, the hotel offers options for the morning meal, Sukhur, and the evening meal after sunset, Iftar, in the Vista restaurant, located on the 30<sup>th</sup> floor of the hotel.

For Sukhur, The Ritz-Carlton, Almaty offers a variety of snacks, such as a mix of olives, hummus, a cheese platter, fresh baked bread with jam and homemade butter, Greek yogurt, as well as seasonal fruits and vegetables, fresh juices, coffee, tea or herbal teas. Guests can also enjoy soup of the day, and sweet date pudding for dessert. For guests staying at the hotel, inroom breakfast is available (pre-ordering is required).

The Iftar menu includes traditional Ramadan treats: dried fruits and dates, fresh bread, a cheese platter, a mezze platter of oriental snacks consisting of hummus, the famous Oriental dish baba ghanoush made from mashed eggplants with spicy seasonings, traditional Turkish snack Haydari from natural yogurt with pickled cheese, oriental tabbouleh salad made from bulgur and finely chopped parsley, as well as the Turkish classic cheese cake Su Boregi. For hot dishes, guests can enjoy soup of the day, as well as the grill station, where guests can order beef or grilled chicken, tender lamb, or meatballs. Different types of side dishes are offered as well. As a sweet treat, guests can try rice pudding, Turkish baklava, Turkish cake with sherbet and poppy seeds, and a fruit platter. The cost of the meal is 12,500 tenge per person.

"Every year for the holy holiday of Ramadan we develop a special menu of famous oriental dishes that are familiar to every Muslim from childhood. Combining the masterpieces of cuisines from different countries, we endeavored to prepare culinary delights taking into account the diet of the fast, with an emphasis on the diversity and nutritional value of the dishes," commented Ismail Alcay, Chef of The Ritz-Carlton, Almaty.