

# **PRESS RELEASE**

Galeries Lafayette inaugurates a department store at the heart of the city centre of Luxembourg, in the new Royal-Hamilius urban planning project

Paris, November 28th, 2019

Galeries Lafayette continues its international expansion with the official opening of the first department store of Luxembourg City on November 30<sup>th</sup>. At the heart of one of Europe's major capital cities, this new flagship store will benefit from a particularly buoyant local economy that welcomes over 4 million visitors per year, from both Luxembourg and beyond. Located in the Royal-Hamilius, a new complex designed by the Pritzker winning British architect, Norman Foster, and his firm Foster + Partners, the store is part of a major project led by property developer CODIC International to revitalise the city centre by creating new shops, restaurants, offices and homes. The Group's decision to open a Galeries Lafayette-owned store here reaffirms its interest in creating must visit destinations in international city centres.

This reasonably sized department store covers 6,500 sq.m. of retail space and is the product of a unique architectural concept inspired by the sheer size of the complex and its surroundings. The exterior façades, made entirely of transparent glass, blend into the building's architecture and create a unique dialogue between the store's ground floor and the two busy adjacent streets, Grand Rue and Boulevard Royal. Inside, the overall design and visual identity plays on the sleek, contemporary look of Royal-Hamilius to offer unique shopping areas in a bright and modern setting.

Galeries Lafayette Luxembourg also blended local influences and French expertise to design every floor of this department store. Materials directly inspired by Luxembourg's slate and quarries and interior furniture influenced by various well known French artists such as Charlotte Perriand, Jean Prouvé and Pierre Chapo create a unique style. Galeries Lafayette also decided to collaborate with École Duperré, a renowned school of applied arts in Paris, to breathe new life into the motifs designed by Ateliers de la Maîtrise of Galeries Lafayette.

A selection of 300 premium and luxury brands are spread over six floors of fashion, homeware and beauty. The three first floors are dedicated to Beauty, Accessories and Fashion with several extensive and exclusive multi brand spaces. Galeries Lafayette Luxembourg especially teamed up with SMETS, Luxembourg's leading concept store, to offer a broad range of luxury fashion labels in an innovative 150 sq.m. space. The store also unveils three « creative labs » and presents the entirely renovated Galeries Lafayette-Royal Quartz Paris concept for luxury timepieces and jewellery.



In parallel, the men's section has been designed to best meet clients' expectations and complete what is already on offer in the city centre: On the third and fourth floors, men can find an extensive selection of formal wear and streetwear, as well as accessories and beauty. Lifestyle products are located on the fifth floor, where clients will find a large area for homeware with an exclusive AM.PM space spanning 100 sq.m, and a gift shop. A selection of the best childrenswear brands is also available on this floor. Temporary events and bespoke services, such as a Wellness Area, a VIP room and a Nail Bar, offer an inspiring and original shopping experience. On the last floor, the store gives direct access to the rooftop garden and MANKO restaurant, designed by the renowned chef Gaston Acurio and the MOMA Group. It will open during the first quarter of 2020 to provide unimpeded panoramic views of the city of Luxembourg and the surrounding area.

With the aim of ensuring a fully omnichannel experience, all store employees will be equipped with a mobile phone that lets them check stocks in real time and browse the full range marketed on galerieslafayette.com. Mobile payment will also be developed in the coming months.

Commenting on this opening, Nicolas Houzé, CEO of Galeries Lafayette and BHV MARAIS, declared: "We are delighted to be opening Galeries Lafayette Luxembourg today. It rounds off 2019 on a high note; we developed a number of exceptional projects in France and abroad this year. This new flagship store reaffirms our aim to create must visit destinations offering the best of entertainment and fashion, for our local clients and international visitors alike."

#### **Press contacts**

### Alexandra Van Weddingen

VP Corporate Communications – Galeries Lafayette Group avanweddingen@galerieslafayette.com + 33 1 45 96 68 44

# **Eva Perret**

Senior Corporate Communications Officer – Galeries Lafayette Group eperret@galerieslafayette.com + 33 1 42 82 34 04

### **About Galeries Lafayette**

Leading department store in France and famous all around the world, Galeries Lafayette has for the past 120 years been the undisputed expert in fashion and events, striving to make each visit to be a unique experience by offering French and international clients a constantly renewed selection of the best brands, ranging from the affordable to premium. Present in the fashion, accessory, beauty, interior decoration, fine foods and catering sectors, the brand is celebrated for its 65 store network in France and abroad, its e-commerce website galerieslafayette.com, and its off-price activity Galeries Lafayette L'Outlet.

More information on galerieslafayette.com, on Facebook and on Instagram (@galerieslafayette)

