SOMMERRO

Sommerro's Villa Inkognito Officially Opens its Doors as Oslo's First-Ever Urban Villa *The city's newest gem blends luxury and subtle escapism to provide guests the ultimate private hideaway*

New York (April 20, 2023) – Following <u>Sommerro's</u> grand opening in September 2022 as Oslo's first luxury neighborhood hotel, the property announced today the launch of <u>Villa Inkognito</u>, a private 11-suite retreat located next door. A rare gem offering a mix of luxury and escapism in Oslo's vibrant West End, Villa Inkognito is unique to Oslo as the only urban villa available to book in its entirety or on an individual room basis. With highlights ranging from thoughtfully designed bedrooms to unmatched personalized service, Villa Inkognito is an elegant oasis meticulously designed to be the ultimate home away from home.

Originally built as a private residence in 1870 by architect Thøger Binneballe, Villa Inkognito has taken on many iterations throughout the years. Most notably the building was utilized as the office space for the Oslo Lysverker administration, the city's original electrical company, in the 1950s before housing the Algerian embassy from 1980. Now part of Sommerro, this iconic building has come full circle with a new lease on life as a private villa, offering the ultimate in seclusion with its own dedicated hidden entrance. Guests are pampered with a personal host to make their stay as easy and seamless as possible, while enjoying full access to all of Sommerro's amenities and services, including <u>seven restaurants and bars</u>, <u>meeting and event spaces</u> with capacity for up to 150 people, a 100-seat <u>gilded theatre</u>, a landmark <u>wellness space</u> featuring historic public baths, and the city's first year-round <u>rooftop pool</u>, <u>sauna</u>, and <u>terrace</u>.

Bespoke Designs from GRECODECO

Designed to capture the feel of a very stylish private home, Villa Inkognito comes alive through the vision of <u>GRECODECO</u>, the New York- and London-based studio that also directed the interior design of Sommerro's living and social spaces. The GRECODECO team delved into the historic building's past to create interior spaces embellished with a mix of antiques, original artwork, decorative details, and classic Scandinavian furnishings. The villa's bedrooms, which range in size from cozy <u>Standard Rooms</u> to large-scale <u>Suites</u> and the uber-private <u>Tower Room</u>, are inspired by a range of eras including Classic Norwegian, Art Nouveau, Arts & Crafts, and a bit of Japonisme. The bedrooms boast opulent details and lush textiles, such as custom-designed furnishings with marquetried details recalling 19th century Norwegian motifs, bespoke hand-knotted rugs, beds from innovative Swedish sleep brand <u>Hilding Anders</u>, and dreamy bathrooms with custom tiles.

Vibrant Public Spaces

A series of distinctly themed rooms, both chromatically and in spirit, make up the public areas of Villa Inkognito. The private entrance, separate from Sommerro's main doors, offers a black and white color scheme adorned with antique wallpaper from the U.S. The guest journey advances with each room in a wildly different color scheme, much like Dorothy's experience after the crash landing of her house into technicolor Oz. Guests can gather in several well-appointed living rooms, including a library, lounge, dining room, and open kitchen, where a private chef serves breakfast dishes for every taste, along with a fitness room in the basement and an outdoor area. Guests staying at Villa Inkognito can arrange private dinners and order in-suite dining from the best of Sommerro's <u>celebrated restaurants</u>, while also having the opportunity to enjoy in-room wellness treatments from the experts at <u>Vestkantbadet</u>.

Personalized First Class Service

At Villa Inkognito, privacy is key. Each stay is handled with discretion and courtesy from pre-arrival to departure. The Lady of the House ensures everyone feels like a personal guest of the villa to create a memorable and welcoming stay like no other. Private hosts are on hand to curate a stay that makes the most of this extraordinary haven, whether that's shaking up a cocktail or two at Spectre, the retreat's intimate and cozy bar, or personally showing guests the very best Frogner has to offer. In addition to bespoke service in the villa, guests will enjoy priority reservations at Sommerro's convivial brasserie Ekspedisjonshallen, Izakaya Bar & Terrace, and TAK, the hotel's Nordic-Japanese rooftop restaurant helmed by the award-winning chef Frida Ronge.

Committed to a Sustainable Future

Sommerro made its mark as Norway's largest-ever preservation project, with Villa Inkognito following in its footsteps as it upholds and enhances <u>Nordic Hotels & Resorts'</u> commitment to eco-sustainability. With the villa's interiors amazingly intact, every effort possible was made to renovate, refurbish, repolish, and repurpose all of the historic building's existing materials, floors, and textiles. GRECODECO was also able to maintain the original layout of the rooms on the public floor and preserve the elaborate plaster ceilings with their detailed moldings and central medallions which were unique to each room. Original stone remaining from the renovation has been repurposed into décor pieces such as stone vases, and excess textiles have found new life in the villa's vibrant public spaces and warm suites.

Sustainability extends beyond the tactile with the "Sommerro Standards," a set of nine benchmarks the hotel uses to guide all day-to-day operations, partnerships, and policies that extend to Villa Inkognito. The standards focus on traditional environmental protection measures such as recycling and carefully selecting the types of ingredients used in the kitchen and guest amenities, as well as the materials used in the villa's restoration, down to the staff uniforms. "Sommerro Standards" also emphasize the importance of preserving and protecting mental health of its staff, alongside support of locally-owned businesses and community initiatives. Villa Inkognito follows Sommerro's 8-hour rule for employees to ensure work-life balance is always considered – 8 hours of work, 8 hours of fun, and 8 hours of sleep. The hotel prides itself on fostering a truly inclusive, collaborative, and enjoyable home for both employees and visitors alike.

Villa Inkognito single room rates start from \$615/night, and full Villa rentals start from \$10,200/night. Images of Villa Inkognito can be found <u>here</u> with images of Sommerro <u>here</u> (Credit: Francisco Nogueira). For more information and to book, please visit: <u>www.villainkognito.com</u>

About Sommerro

Set within a restored landmark 1930s building in Frogner, one of the oldest neighborhoods in Oslo in the city's West End, Sommerro is a celebration of Norwegian design, fusing form and function to become the city's first art deco hotel and a modern tribute to Norwegian cultural heritage. Occupying the original building of the former headquarters of Oslo Lysverker, the city's original electrical company, and a newly designed extension, the hotel features 231 rooms and luxury suites, four restaurants, three bars, a sprawling wellness space that brings back the city's public baths, a series of historical meeting and event rooms, and a rooftop terrace. Sommerro is a two-minute walk to the local train station, providing easy access to Oslo Airport and beyond, and within close proximity to some of the city's top attractions such as the Oslo Opera House and MUNCH. Sommerro is fueled by renewable energy, and local electric

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transport. The hotel is a member of Preferred Hotels & Resorts. For more information, visit <u>www.sommerrohouse.com</u>.

About Nordic Hotels & Resorts

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