

Media Release

Katharina Baumann of Widder Hotel named “Concierge of the Year” – The Living Circle makes a strong showing in “The 150 Best Hotels” ranking

Several The Living Circle properties honored in the prestigious 2026/27 hotel ranking

Zurich, 18 May 2026 // Special recognition for Katharina Baumann: the Head Concierge of Widder Hotel has been named “Concierge of the Year 2026” in Andrin Willi’s prestigious hotel ranking “The 150 Best Hotels”. The award recognizes a hospitality personality who embodies discreet excellence, personalized service and an exceptional guest experience. Several The Living Circle properties were also honored.

The award was officially announced on 17 May 2026 in NZZ am Sonntag. The official ceremony takes place today, 18 May 2026, during the launch event for the new hotel ranking at The Dolder Grand. Published annually, Andrin Willi’s ranking is regarded as one of the leading quality benchmarks in Swiss hospitality. Now in its thirteenth edition, it recognizes Switzerland’s 150 finest hotels as well as outstanding personalities within the industry.

Katharina Baumann is recognized as a defining figure in modern luxury hospitality. As Head Concierge of Widder Hotel, she combines exceptional professionalism with warmth, discretion and a deep connection to Zurich. For many guests, she is far more than a point of contact - she builds trust, unlocks unique experiences and turns every stay into something truly personal and memorable.

“At a time when personal attention has become true luxury, Katharina Baumann embodies exactly what our properties stand for: attentiveness, discretion, warmth and genuine hospitality. She is far more than a concierge – she is a trusted advisor, an outstanding host and a true ambassador for our brand.”

Marco Zanolari, CEO of The Living Circle

“Katharina Baumann shapes the Widder Hotel with a rare combination of professionalism, warmth and a fine sense for people. For our guests, she is a trusted confidante; for the team, a role model; and for our hotel, a true figure of identity.”

Benjamin Dietsche, General Manager Widder Hotel

Alongside Katharina Baumann’s distinction, several The Living Circle properties were recognized in the latest hotel ranking. Highlights include Castello del Sole in Ascona, ranked number 2 among Switzerland’s five-star resort hotels, as well as the strong positions achieved by Widder Hotel and Storchen Zürich among the country’s leading city hotels.

Award-winning rankings at a glance:

Castello del Sole, Ascona – ranked no. 2 among five-star resort hotels

Widder Hotel, Zurich – ranked no. 10 among city hotels

Storchen Zürich – ranked no. 20 among city hotels

Bergwelt Grindelwald – ranked no. 7 among Switzerland's four-star resort hotels

The simultaneous recognition of several properties highlights The Living Circle's commitment to excellence: distinctive destinations in extraordinary locations, shaped by people who bring hospitality to life with personality, passion and attention to detail.

Portrait images of Katharina Baumann are available via the following [link](#).

Additional press material:

[press images Castello del Sole](#) | [press images Widder Hotel](#) | [press images Storchen Zürich](#)

About The Living Circle

As a family-owned Swiss hospitality and agriculture group, The Living Circle embodies the philosophy "Luxury fed by nature". Across some of Switzerland's most beautiful destinations, the group brings together four hotels, one hideaway, eight restaurants, three farms and a winery. The Living Circle invites guests into a world of distinctive properties defined by a strong connection to nature, refined design, passionate hosts, living history and culinary excellence. From elevated farm-to-table cuisine to Michelin-starred fine dining, the group's culinary universe always stays close to nature. Its portfolio includes Castello del Sole Beach Resort & SPA in Ascona, Storchen Zürich, Alex Lake Zürich, Widder Hotel in Zurich and the exclusive hideaway Château de Raymontpierre. As the only hotel group in Switzerland with its own farms and winery, The Living Circle creates an authentic farm-to-table experience through Schlattgut in Herrliberg, the farm at Château de Raymontpierre, Terreni alla Maggia and Cantina alla Maggia. From autumn 2026, the boutique hotel Bergwelt Grindelwald will join the portfolio, offering a new mountain retreat in the Bernese Oberland. Together with the Caminada Group, a "Member of The Living Circle", the culinary circle is complete. The hotel properties are affiliated with selected partnerships including Swiss Deluxe Hotels, The Leading Hotels of the World, Preferred Hotels & Resorts and Responsible Hotels of Switzerland.

Press Contact

Irene Franco

Head of PR & Communication

The Living Circle AG

+41 79 920 95 09

irene.franco@thelivingcircle.ch