



For Immediate Release

National Harbor's Capital Wheel to Provide Views from 175 Feet Up! Newest National Capital Region Icon to Debut May 2014

National Harbor, Maryland, January 16, 2014 – Soaring 175 feet above the Potomac River waterfront at [National Harbor](#), The Capital Wheel, set to debut in May 2014, will join a growing number of large-scale observation wheels around the globe as an iconic, world-class attraction.

From its dynamic location at the end of a pier overlooking the river, The Capital Wheel will offer riders a spectacular view of the Nation's Capital "from a new perspective," according to National Harbor developer [Peterson Companies](#). Sights visible from The Capital Wheel include the White House and Capitol, the National Mall, Arlington Cemetery and the lush parklands throughout the DC-Maryland-Virginia region.

With its 42 closed, climate-controlled gondolas, each seating eight, The Capital Wheel will operate year-round, as do observation wheels in other locales, where they have boosted economic development and prestige. The Capital Wheel is expected to attract 600,000 – 800,000 visitors annually.

The London Eye quickly became the United Kingdom's most popular paid tourist attraction, averaging 10,000 visitors daily and some 3.75 million annually. A popular location for films and TV shows, it also hosts events as diverse as corporate launches, weddings and fashion shoots.

In similar fashion, The Capital Wheel will host a variety of public, corporate and private events, with catering available by Wolfgang Puck, whose team will provide creative seasonal concessions.

"The Capital Wheel will be a new icon for the National Capital region, a family-friendly yet sophisticated magnet for area residents, U.S. and global tourists alike," observed Peterson Companies Principal and Chairman Milt Peterson. "Already, Maryland is attracting more tourists in part to National Harbor's emergence as a premier resort destination. The Capital Wheel will be a tremendous complement to the existing shopping, dining and lodging options at National Harbor and further drive visitation to Prince George's County and the state of Maryland."

"The Capital Wheel at National Harbor will be a welcomed addition to the numerous attractions that have made National Harbor a regional destination," said Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III. "Like the National Harbor ice rink and carousel, The Capital Wheel will draw even more visitors. These types of attractions are why Prince George's County is the 'Place to Be.' I thank the Peterson Companies for their commitment to bringing innovative and fun attractions to the County for our residents, businesses and visitors. I look forward to more announcements like this in years to come."

For information and updates on The Capital Wheel, visit www.TheCapitalWheel.com. Follow National Harbor on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

About National Harbor:

National Harbor is a community unlike any other in the D.C. region, designed to take full advantage of the most historic river in the nation. Rising from the banks of the Potomac River just south of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge in Prince George's County, MD, National Harbor is a 350-acre, resort destination that includes the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, Tanger Outlets, National Children's Museum, thousands of hotel rooms, hundreds of residential and office units, tree-lined promenades with scores of popular shops and restaurants, and a marina. Additionally, MGM Resorts International has plans to build a \$925 million casino complex on 23 acres overlooking the Potomac River with an 18-story, 300-suite hotel. For more information visit www.nationalharbor.com.

About Peterson Companies

Peterson Companies is one of the largest privately owned real estate development companies in the Washington, DC region and offers fully integrated development services for commercial, office, residential and retail real estate. The company is responsible for some of the most prominent and successful mixed-use retail, residential and office developments in Northern Virginia and Maryland including National Harbor, Downtown Silver Spring, Washingtonian Center, Fairfax Corner, Virginia Gateway, Fair Lakes, Burke Centre and Tysons McLean Office Park. Founded by Milt Peterson over 30 years ago, the company has an extensive two million square foot development pipeline throughout the Washington, DC region. For more information about the company, please visit www.petersoncos.com.

Media Contact:

Stephanie Orton Lynch
VP, Communications | Delucchi Plus
202.248.5855 | slynch@delucchiplus.com

Angela Sweeney
VP, Corporate Marketing & Communications
The Peterson Companies
443.691.2957 | asweeney@petersoncos.com

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