

December 23, 2013

Sausalito Ups the Meetings Ante



Junto Boardroom, Casa Madrona Hotel and Spa

For meeting professionals, Sausalito has often posed challenges such as price, transfer logistics, adequate event space and the number of available rooms. With San Francisco rates soaring and the desire to find truly unique alternatives, Sausalito properties have upped the ante and now play host to exclusive events utilizing new spaces and revivals of others. Here's the rundown:

Next month, the beautiful hillside **Casa Madrona Hotel & Spa** opens the first phase of its renovation of its historic 1885 mansion, upper hillside cottages, and meeting and event space. A sneak peak allowed us to see the results that exemplify its focus on cutting-technology, luxury, service and style. The restructuring and redesign of the mansion's 11 rooms, including the new 5,000 square-foot Alexandrite Suite (named for the rare gemstone most commonly known for its miraculous color changing effect) and the 1,700 square-foot Junto meeting and event space (named after Benjamin Franklin's diverse cooperative for mutual improvement), offer planners smart spaces, the finest amenities and spectacular views of Richardson Bay and the San Francisco skyline. The technology highlights include a nine-panel Samsung media wall, ideal for life-size HD viewing experiences, multi-point video conferencing, Internet connectivity and multi-viewing capabilities. Small groups can take advantage of the nine splendid new guest rooms above for a buyout at the mansion. The property has an additional 65-plus guest rooms. F&B will be delicately handled by the popular Poggio kitchen housed on the street level. 415.332.0502