

STARHOTELS®

L'ITALIA NEL CUORE

ELISABETTA FABRI
President and CEO of Starhotels



Florentine, mother of twins, Elisabetta Fabri has lived her life between her hometown, Rome, and Washington, New York and Florence.

After attaining a diploma at the Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne and a bachelor in Business Administration at John Cabot University in Rome, she entered the family business to gain experience in hotel management. A cosmopolitan background combined with a long apprenticeship "in the field" from an early age enabled her to develop a thorough understanding of hospitality.

In 1992 she made her official debut as entrepreneur creating Starhotels International and purchasing "deluxe" hotel, The Michelangelo, in midtown Manhattan, New York.

In 2000, she was appointed CEO and Vice President of Starhotels SpA. Eleven years later, she became President, continuing the internationalisation with the acquisition of hotels in Paris and London, as well as redeveloping the Italian range through major investments in restructuring and new hotels.

Dedication and passion inherited from her father Ferruccio, who established Starhotels in 1980, are the hallmarks that guide the family group, the only Italian hotel chain with an international presence whose ownership and management have been held by the same family without interruption for over thirty years.

Each Starhotels hotel has its own personality and hospitality style that is all Italian.

"In our hotels we have put all our love for our country and its riches, choosing to interpret the hotel as an expression of the city where it is located, its style, beauty and gastronomic specialties. In hotels in Paris, New York and London, we want to be a reference point for lovers of Italian style, hospitality, elegance and quality of life, outside the country, for business or pleasure."

The Fondazione Marisa Bellisario awarded her the 2001 Golden Apple Award for exporting "Italian style" in the hospitality world. In 2007, she was awarded the Premio Excellent for exporting Italian style in international hôtellerie. She was awarded the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year for 2012 in the Trade & Services category "For having created a chain of 4-5 star hotels, one of a kind, capable of expressing all the elegance and style of made in Italy hospitality in the world, combining high service with results consistently above the industry standard." In 2014 she received the Premio Excellent once more for the innovative Starhotels E.C.HO, which created a case history in the sustainable hospitality industry.

Under her leadership, Starhotels has distinguished itself by a strong commitment to supporting art and culture and promoting Italian historical and artistic heritage. A supporter of the Friends of the Uffizi and the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, several monuments have benefited through their restoration sponsored by the company: from the 28 Statues of Illustrious Figures in the Loggia of the Uffizi Gallery, to the Maschio Angioino, Raphael's Madonna con il Velo and the Piazzale Michelangelo in Florence.

In addition to her work for family business, in recent years she has held important positions in other organisations and companies: in 2014 she was elected a member of the Ente Cassa di Risparmio di Firenze and the same year she served as a board member at the Italian Postal Service; in 2015 she was appointed member of the Toscana Airports Board.

She is a member of AIDDA (Association of Women Entrepreneurs and Corporate Executives), the Young Presidents' Organisation (YPO) and AIDAF (Italian Association of Family Businesses).

The company has a strong female presence. Women make up 55% of the resources. Recognising their critical role in today's business world, Elisabetta Fabri has a very clear objective: the renewal and enhancement of the portfolio of existing properties, overseas expansion and the creation of "special" hotels engineered by a centralised management.