

MODERN LUXURY

# OCEAN DRIVE



# C Is for Cipriani

WITH MR. C, A NEW GENERATION BRINGS THE CIPRIANI FAMILY LEGACY TO COCONUT GROVE.

BY JEAN NAYAR  
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Ever since Giuseppe Cipriani opened Harry's Bar in Venice in 1931, the Cipriani name has been synonymous with high-style hospitality for generations of jet-setters. Now, Ignazio and Maggio Cipriani, the millennial heirs to the maestro's hospitality legacy, are extending their family's history in the business to a new generation of restaurants and hotels with their Mr. C brand. Here, Ignazio opens up on the new Mr. C hotel and Bellini Bar in Coconut Grove.

What sets Mr. C apart from the well-known Cipriani brand? People come to Cipriani's for the service and the elegance of the place. We have the same approach here, but we kept it a little more informal. And I worked with my brother and the culinary team to put together a menu for Bellini Bar that's completely different from the menu at any Cipriani restaurant. We also have a pizza place next to the pool. And there's an area on the ground floor where we serve breakfast, panini for a quick lunch, and in the evening it'll be a wine bar.

What are some of your favorites on the menu? The baked polenta *al cucchiaino* with *stracchino* cheese and crispy mushrooms.

Harry's Bar in Venice is the birthplace of the beloved Bellini. Any lessons learned

over the years? Yes, the Bellini will be a welcome drink for guests when they check in. The lesson: If something works well, don't make any changes.

Tell us about the Mr. C interiors. I love Martin Brudnizki's work. I've been to clubs he's designed in London, and he's worked with my family on other projects. The spaces are timeless and elegant, like walking into a cruise ship and looking out at the water; it almost feels like you're sailing.



Clockwise from top: Ignazio Cipriani on the Mr. C pool deck overlooking Biscayne Bay and Coconut Grove; the Bellini Bar dining room; a table setting.

