**Hotel investment**

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Bill Gates. archive photo.

28-10-2015Andrew Gombert

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The American billionaire, Bill Gates, could soon become **a shareholder of the Formentor, A Royal Hideaway Hotel**, which is owned by the Barceló group.

The Four Seasons was acquired by **Bill Gates and the Prince of Saudi Arabia Alwaleed Bin Talal** in 2007 and the chain has more than 80 luxury hotels worldwide which are valued at 3,800 million.

The Four Seasons owners are said to be interested in acquiring the Formentor, A Royal Hideaway Hotel to turn it into an **International Luxury Centre specialising in thalassotherapy** services, using seawater in cosmetic and health treatments.

The Barceló group bought the Formentor Hotel in 2006 for **70 million euros** and received a purchase option last year.

A confidentiality clause prevents the name of the company being made public, but the Four Seasons chain has already **tabled a bid for the hotel because of its location and natural environment**.

The purchase option is rumoured to be in the region of **100 million euros**.