

PY Gerbeau

Former CEO of X-Leisure

PY Gerbeau is a French businessman and serial entrepreneur, based in the UK. He has completed nine successful business turnarounds and created a £600m property portfolio as CEO of X-Leisure, before overseeing its sale to Land Securities.

He is regarded as a guru in the leisure/retail/entertainment industry and was voted Personality of the Year by his peers in the leisure industry. He has an MBA and is a popular television pundit giving his views about the business climate and how companies can best achieve success.

In his role as Vice-President of Park Operations and Attractions, Gerbeau was credited with turning around Euro Disney after its difficult start during the 1990s and making it Europe's biggest visitor attraction.

In the UK he is best known for his role as CEO of the New Millennium Experience Company, responsible for the Millennium Dome in London. With struggling visitor numbers, negative publicity and major financial problems Gerbeau faced a huge challenge; however, he achieved a great deal, including visitor numbers of over 6 million and successfully revived the company's fortunes.

Gerbeau serves as the Visiting Professor of Entrepreneurship and Corporate Rescue at London Business School and Imperial College. He regularly talks about how management decisions need to be firm and consistent, how values must be understood and upheld, and how every tier of management must be agile, accountable and better at managing risk; and of paramount importance how to lead people by example.

Before embarking on his highly successful business career, Gerbeau was the Captain of the French Ice Hockey Team and won the Pro-Am in the Alfred Dunhill Cup at St. Andrews. In his spare time he loves to play golf.