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Olivia Greets Further Expands into Executive Office Centers

The Olivia Greets live, avatar-based virtual receptionist solution offers a flexible alternative for executive office space providers looking to save money while providing a unique high-tech solution.

Chicago, IL (PRWEB) July 13, 2009 -- The Olivia Greets live, avatar-based virtual receptionist solution offers a flexible alternative for executive office space providers looking to save money, while providing a unique high-tech solution.

The Brandywine Executive Center, a leading executive office space provider, uses the Olivia Greets solution in their front lobby to enhance the experience of their customers while reducing their costs. Whether the client is a full-time tenant or typically visits offices located across multiple cities, Olivia Greets is there to greet them when they arrive at the front door, providing a personalized service.

Executive office spaces are an ideal solution for businesses looking for flexible and cost-effective work options. With the rise of gas prices and energy bills, these spaces also provide an environmentally friendly solution for business people that travel frequently. One downfall is that the doors commonly close at five o'clock.

By using the Olivia Greets virtual receptionist, executive office space providers can now allow access to all of their clients 24 hours a day while providing a consistent experience from office to office. Furthermore, the Olivia Greets system allows office staff to multi-task and to provide additional value-adding and revenue generating services to clients.

Chuck Boyce, regional manager of Brandywine Executive Center in Wilmington, DE says, "The Olivia Greets solution is a great fit for my executive office business. Not only am I able to provide enhanced receptionist coverage in my front lobby, but I am also able to positively impact the bottom line allowing me to further invest in my business".

In today's increasingly competitive market, Olivia Greets is another way for executive office centers to manage their budgets, focus on their businesses and, perhaps most importantly, provide a differentiated offering to their customer base.

The Olivia Greets system provides a variety of customizable and functional features. Digital signage can act as advertising or as a way to deliver messages to clients and employees. Further value-adding options, such as video recording and a digital visitor log are available, as well as optional access control. Olivia Greets' virtual receptionist technology is also being used in the healthcare industry as a live agent patient check-in kiosk. For additional information on Olivia Greets, visit www.oliviagreets.com or contact:

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You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



Viad Corp Announces Strategic Reorganization

New Structure Will Offer Greater Innovation, Efficiency and Service.

Phoenix, AZ (PRWEB) July 13, 2009 -- Viad Corp (NYSE:VVI) today announced a strategic reorganization to enhance service, innovation and value. The change will enable Viad to take advantage of the evolving dynamics of the marketplace and to better serve customer needs into the future.

The reorganization aligns Viad's brands and operations into two business units:

- * Viad's Marketing & Events Group, which includes GES Exposition Services, Exhibitgroup/Giltspur, Melville, Becker Group and Viad's other exhibition and event related companies
- * Viad's Travel & Recreation Group, which includes Brewster and Glacier Park

To support these business units, Viad will also create a Corporate Services Group that will centralize additional corporate functions.

Paul B. Dykstra, chairman, president and chief executive officer, said, "After careful evaluation of the needs of our customers and our capabilities, including the insights derived from our previously announced "lean transformation" program, we identified a significant opportunity to provide increased service, innovation and value for our customers. As a result, we are combining the talent and resources of our operating companies and consolidating support functions. This evolution of our business strategy will better position us for growth with an integrated offering and innovation in approach for our customers."

Creation of Viad's Marketing & Events Group

John Jastrem, president and chief executive officer of Viad's experiential marketing agency, Exhibitgroup/Giltspur (EG), has assumed responsibility for Viad's newly formed Marketing & Events Group, which will include EG and its sister company, GES Exposition Services (GES), a leader in exhibition and event services. "John has done a great job during his tenure at the helm of EG to elevate the level and quality of service and drive market share gains. With John's broad marketing experience and leadership, Viad's Marketing & Events Group will bring innovation and new relevancy to the industry," said Dykstra.

Current economic conditions and changes in the way customers are doing business mandate a higher-value trade show experience for both exhibitors and attendees. Viad's Marketing & Events Group, through its combined global resources, is uniquely positioned to help its clients maximize the return on their marketing expenditures.

Viad's new structure builds on the best-in-class strengths of GES and EG to form a world-class organization with a comprehensive offering of exhibition, event and experiential marketing services including:

- * Full Scale Official Contracting Services to provide consistent, best-in-class event production and service delivery
- * Cutting Edge Creative & Design to create unique, powerful and memorable opportunities to connect businesses face to face;
- * Marketing and Measurement Services to generate increased value from exhibitions and events; and



* Unparalleled Global Reach across North America, Europe and the Middle East to provide solutions around the world.

Jastrem said, "GES and EG are both leading brands. By combining our resources, we will be able to offer more compelling solutions to our clients. This is an exciting strategic move and one we have been working toward for the past few years. We have strong, global positions and capabilities. As a unified network, the depth of our talent, from tactical to strategic, will be unmatched. I look forward to working with this formidable team to offer a comprehensive, consultative approach to providing innovative, value-added solutions to our clients."

Kevin Rabbitt, president and chief executive officer of GES, will remain with the company through September 30, 2009, and will serve in an advisory capacity to Jastrem through the end of 2009. Dykstra said, "I want to thank Kevin for his years of outstanding service, leadership, innovation and results at GES. Under his leadership, GES achieved great customer service and operational efficiencies and stands positioned to provide Viad with a competitive edge through the new organization."

Creation of Viad's Travel & Recreation Group

Viad has also aligned its travel-related businesses to form Viad's Travel & Recreation Group, an experiential travel organization serving the needs of regional and long-haul national park visitors in North America. Michael Hannan, currently chief executive officer of Brewster, will oversee the new combined organization. Cindy Ognjanov, president and general manager of Glacier Park, will report to Hannan.

"Strategically, we are focused on creating rich national park experiences for our guests through our unique hotels and lodges, our recreational attractions, and our touring operations," said Hannan. "By aligning all our existing assets and people, we believe we can do an even better job of creating memorable guest experiences as well as creating a platform for future growth."

Ognjanov said, "We will continue to uphold the core values of our organizations, including outstanding customer service and environmental stewardship. Preserving the historic structures and grandeur of the national parks in which we operate is a top priority, along with maintaining our long-standing partnerships with the U.S. Park Service and Parks Canada."

Creation of the Corporate Services Group

To support the new operational platforms and achieve additional economies of scale, Viad will also integrate its finance, information technology, human resources and legal services functions. This initiative will centralize the expertise and resources of Viad's support services, thereby creating greater efficiency for its internal customers and providing a more efficient structure to acquire and integrate new businesses. Additionally, it will enable Viad's business units to more sharply focus on three areas:

- * driving brand leadership and innovation;
- * optimizing service delivery to our customers; and
- * investing in strategic sales and marketing efforts to gain market share.

Looking Ahead



Dykstra said, "Today, we begin building a new and exciting future for Viad. We are fortunate to have industry-leading brands and capabilities, talented and dedicated employees and a strong balance sheet. These assets, along with our continued investment in the business, are key advantages to us relative to many of our competitors. We will be able to provide an even more compelling service offering to our clients and offer greater opportunities for our employees as our business grows. As we progress through this transformation, we will remain committed to delivering exceptional service to our customers and strong returns to our shareholders."

Conference Call and Webcast

Viad Corp will hold a conference call with investors and analysts to discuss the strategic changes on Monday, July 13, 2009 at 11:30 a.m. (ET). To join the live conference call (800) 857-5472, passcode "Viad" or access the Webcast through Viad's Web site at www.viad.com. A replay will be available for a limited time at (800) 839-2236 (no passcode required) or visit the Viad Web site and link to a replay of the Webcast. A presentation will be posted to Viad's Web site prior to the conference call.

Viad is an S&P SmallCap 600 company. Major operating companies include GES Exposition Services, Exhibitgroup/Giltspur, Brewster and Glacier Park, Inc. For more information, visit the company's Web site at www.viad.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

As provided by the safe harbor provision under the "Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995," Viad cautions readers that, in addition to historical information contained herein, this press release includes certain information, assumptions and discussions that may constitute forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts, but reflect current estimates, projections, expectations, or trends concerning future growth, operating cash flows, availability of short-term borrowings, consumer demand, new business, investment policies, productivity improvements, ongoing cost reduction efforts, efficiency, competitiveness, legal expenses, tax rates and other tax matters, foreign exchange rates, and the realization of restructuring cost savings. Actual results could differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements. Viad's businesses can be affected by a host of risks and uncertainties. Among other things, natural disasters, gains and losses of customers, consumer demand patterns, labor relations, purchasing decisions related to customer demand for exhibition and event services, existing and new competition, industry alliances, consolidation and growth patterns within the industries in which Viad competes, acquisitions, adverse developments in liabilities associated with discontinued operations and any deterioration in the economy, may individually or in combination impact future results. In addition to factors mentioned elsewhere, economic, competitive, governmental, technological, capital marketplace and other factors, including further terrorist activities or war, a pandemic health crisis and international conditions, could affect the forward-looking statements in this press release. Additional information concerning business and other risk factors that could cause actual results to materially differ from those in the forward-looking statements can be found in Viad's annual and quarterly reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Information about Viad Corp obtained from sources other than the company may be out-of-date or incorrect. Please rely only on company press releases, SEC filings and other information provided by the company, keeping in mind that forward-looking statements speak only as of the date made. Viad undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements, including prior forward-looking statements, to reflect events or circumstances



arising after the date as of which the forward-looking statements were made.

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New Company Universal Accommodations Offers a No-Cost Temporary Housing Service

Universal Accommodations, offering furnished accommodations, provides cost-effective and comfortable alternatives for travellers seeking short-term or extended-stay temporary housing.

(PRWEB) July 13, 2009 -- Corporate travellers seeking [temporary housing](#) and hotel accommodations for short-term or extended stays have a new resource in Universal Accommodations. A no-cost service, Universal Accommodations locates the most cost-effective and comfortable temporary housing for corporations and individuals looking in any major city.

"I launched this corporate housing company because I noticed that many companies are in need of corporate housing or extended stay hotels but have no idea what is out there in the market and how to get the best possible rates," says Universal Accommodations owner Stuart Levson. With the downsizing of companies, the search for temporary [furnished accommodations](#) is frequently left to someone who has many other responsibilities and may not have the expertise to locate the best extended stay options."

Through one point of contact, Universal Accommodations researches a variety of temporary housing options to find the accommodation that meet the desired budget, preferred location and amenity requirements, and upon narrowing down the field, each client is provided with three options meeting their criteria. Whether the need for furnished accommodations arises as a result of relocation, extended training, project work or families requiring assistance after a natural disaster or fire, Universal Accommodations offers varied housing options ranging from [extended stay hotels](#) to short-term housing.

For more information about Universal Accommodations, call 905-764-7350 or visit www.universalaccommodations.com

About Universal Accommodations

Bringing together over 15 years of experience, the team at Universal Accommodations provides quick, hassle free and reliable furnished accommodations alternatives for not only corporations but individuals as a no-cost resource for temporary housing and hotel accommodations.

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Orlando, FL Gay Timeshare Resort a Hit with Owners

A recent Bay Tree Solutions survey of timeshare owners at Orlando's first alternative-lifestyle resort, The Gardens, shows 97% happy with purchase, planning to use.

Atlanta, GA (PRWEB) July 13, 2009 -- Results of a survey conducted by timeshare marketing firm Bay Tree Solutions show owners at Orlando's first gay timeshare, The Gardens, are overwhelmingly satisfied, with 97% stating they are happy with purchase, and planning to use. The survey found owners enjoy the resort's deluxe accommodations, and look forward to returning during their week. The Gardens is located on the grounds of the [Parliament House](#) resort, an Orlando landmark all-gay resort celebrating its 34th anniversary this month. Owners and guests at the Parliament House enjoy 6 clubs and bars, a full-service restaurant, volleyball, a lakeside beach, and a stunning courtyard pool.

The luxurious one and two-bedroom timeshare units at The Gardens feature flat-panel TVs, granite counters, tastefully decorated living areas, whirlpool tubs, and private patios. Larger two-bedroom villas also include a 5-man ultra shower, and a larger 2-man color changing whirlpool tub. Bay Tree Solutions representative Andrew Miller explains "owners we've spoken with feel they found a real value at The Gardens; gay or straight, units at The Gardens are probably nicer than any in Orlando, and this is the first timeshare actually built inside Orlando city limits." Timeshare exchange company RCI has already awarded the resort it's Gold Crown rating, the highest available.

Orlando has long enjoyed a reputation as a 'gay-friendly' city, with events like Gay Days at the Walt Disney World complex, the Gay Orlando Film Festival, and the Gay Days Expo. As the Orlando Weekly's Billy Manes points out in an [entertaining article](#), the city's undercurrent is "the sublime acceptance of those who choose to like those who are the same gender as themselves." Manes' piece goes on to point out that Orlando has a gay city councilwoman, gay gas station, and even a purportedly gay super market. Undoubtedly, owners at The Gardens enjoy both their deluxe accommodations, and the open-minded environment Orlando offers.

While available timeshares at The Gardens may be few and far between, Bay Tree Solutions has a limited number of [timeshares for sale and rent at The Gardens](#), available through its 'for-sale-by-owner' marketing program. To find out more about timeshares at The Gardens, or for information on buying, renting, or selling a timeshare at any resort, please visit www.baytreesolutions.com.

About Bay Tree Solutions:

Founded in Orlando, FL in 2005, Bay Tree Solutions launched its first web presence in early 2006. Since that time the company has grown quickly, as timeshare owners have embraced its straight forward concept of timeshare marketing. The company is now headquartered in Atlanta, GA, and staffs fully trained sales and client service departments. Bay Tree Solutions has helped thousands of timeshare owners buy, rent, or sell their properties.

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ConferenceDirect Selects Cvent Supplier Network as Hotel RFP Platform

Cvent, the leading provider of web-based software for the \$350 billion meetings and events industry has announced an agreement with ConferenceDirect, one of the largest meeting sourcing solutions in the country.

McLean, VA (Vocus) July 13, 2009 -- Cvent, the leading provider of web-based software for the \$350 billion meetings and events industry has announced an agreement with ConferenceDirect, one of the largest meeting sourcing solutions in the country. ConferenceDirect's 280 associates worldwide, who booked over 2 million of group hotel room nights for its 900 customers in 2008, will now use the Cvent Supplier Network to search for meeting venues, send electronic RFPs to hotels for group business, compare venue bids and carefully track client budgets throughout the site selection process. The Cvent Supplier Network will streamline the site selection and decision making process so ConferenceDirect Associates are able to focus on leveraging their negotiating power and securing the best possible contract for their meeting planner customers.

Over the last year, ConferenceDirect conducted a rigorous analysis across sourcing platforms, followed by a six-month beta test period on the Cvent Supplier Network system. "The Cvent Supplier Network is currently the best tool on the market for site selection and event sourcing," said Brian D. Stevens, CEO of ConferenceDirect. "Over the past six months, we had ten ConferenceDirect Associates send out over 5,000 real RFPs to test the Cvent Supplier Network and we were very satisfied with the results. Our ten beta testers unanimously agreed that we should move to Cvent from our current RFP provider. Our Associates were impressed by the sophistication of the Cvent Supplier Network. It is user friendly and complemented by a Cvent staff that offers excellent customer care. We also needed a solution that was embraced by hotels. We have been equally impressed by the positive experience hotels have had with the new tool. The Cvent Supplier Network will save ConferenceDirect Associates a tremendous amount of time, which in turn, will give them the freedom to provide better service for existing customers."

ConferenceDirect Associates will use a co-developed version of the Cvent Supplier Network that will empower them to search and source meetings to over 75,000 suppliers in a matter of minutes. This unique technology platform will enable ConferenceDirect Associates to provide superior service to their customers. ConferenceDirect's suppliers and contacts, including National Sales Offices (NSOs) and Convention and Visitor Bureau (CVB) executives, will be listed in the ConferenceDirect version of the Cvent Supplier Network platform to ensure that ConferenceDirect Associates continue to build upon their long-standing relationships and secure the best service possible for their customers.

"This partnership is between two companies that are dedicated to delivering the greatest value to their customers for meeting management. Cvent is committed to providing ConferenceDirect with world-class software and unmatched service," said Chuck Ghoorah, Cvent Executive Vice President of Sales and Marketing. "We are proud to count ConferenceDirect as our newest strategic partner and look forward to provide ConferenceDirect's Associates the booking platform for hundreds of millions of dollars in group business."



About Cvent:

Founded in 1999, Cvent has over 475 employees worldwide. Cvent offers web-based software with features including online event registration, event management, event website creation, meeting site selection, event sourcing and web surveys. Cvent helps over 14,000 planners manage 175,000 events, surveys and marketing campaigns per year. Cvent users have sent over 500 million event invitations, have processed \$1 billion in online payments and have managed over 10 million event registrations and responses using Cvent's software. For more information on Cvent's web-based software, please visit www.cvent.com.

About ConferenceDirect:

Founded in 1998, ConferenceDirect is a meeting resources company specializing in Site Selection/Contract Negotiation, Conference Management, Housing and Registration. ConferenceDirect provides its expertise to more than 900 corporations and associations worldwide. ConferenceDirect's 280 Associates and worldwide regional offices comprise one of the largest full service meeting resources companies in the hospitality industry today. For more information, please visit www.conferencedirect.com.

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News Image





Hilton Garden Inn Denver Downtown is MPI Rocky Mountain Chapter's Choice For The Meeting and Hospitality Award of Excellence 2008-2009

The Meeting Professionals International Rocky Mountain Chapter has given their top prize of the Meeting and Hospitality Award of Excellence to the Hilton Garden Inn Denver Downtown for 2008-2009. This designation was awarded at the 2009 "MPI's Crowning Moments" Dinner and Gala, held June 18, 2009 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel at Denver International Airport.

Denver, CO (PRWEB) July 13, 2009 -- The two-year-old Hilton Garden Inn Denver Downtown took top honors recently, receiving the Meeting and Hospitality Award of Excellence presented by the Meeting Professionals International Rocky Mountain Chapter. "In today's fiercely competitive hospitality market, it takes more than just a superior product to earn the respect and recognition of one's peers," stated Navin C. Dimond, President and CEO of Stonebridge Companies. Stonebridge Companies, based in Englewood, Colorado, is owner and operator of the Hilton Garden Inn Denver Downtown. "This Hilton Garden Inn was Hotel of the Year internally for Stonebridge Companies, and we are so proud to accept this Award of Excellence from our Rocky Mountain hospitality community." This award recognizes a host facility for demonstrated achievement in service and creative excellence, and for providing a high quality experience for the MPI Rocky Mountain Chapter community. Recipients have displayed innovation and creativity in the development, planning and delivery of a superior meeting, educational or entertainment event which contributed to the overall impact of the chapter's membership activities.

This 12-story, 221 room, full service hotel broke ground for construction in January of 2006 and opened for business in July of 2007. Located at 14th Street and Welton in downtown Denver, this prime location provides easy access to many corporate headquarters such as Wells Fargo, Qwest and Xcel Energy. It is also in close proximity to Coors Field, the Colorado Convention Center, the Denver Performing Arts Complex, the Pepsi Center and the LoDo Entertainment District. Unique features at this convenient property are signature Garden Sleep System mattresses, 32" HD flat panel televisions, Herman Miller "Mirra" chairs, and innovative alarm clock radios with MP3 functions. Additional benefits for guests are the indoor swimming pool, an oversized whirlpool, and a fitness center with personal cardio theater systems on all equipment. The hotel caters to convention attendees, business travelers, theater patrons and leisure guests.

Meeting Professionals International is an organization composed of both professional meeting planners and professional meeting suppliers. It is the global authority and resource for the meeting industry. The MPI Rocky Mountain Chapter was the first to organize itself separate from, but still connected to, the world-wide MPI network. It was at this year's "MPI's Crowning Moments" Awards Dinner and Gala, held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel at Denver International Airport, that MPI Rocky Mountain Chapter President Megan Meyer, CMP, presented Hilton Garden Inn Denver Downtown Director of Sales and Marketing, Judy Esterbrook, with the coveted Meeting and Hospitality Award of Excellence. Esterbrook, it should be noted, was also recognized internally at Stonebridge Companies as the "Rookie Director of Sales of the Year." She has been doing sales and marketing in the industry for fifteen years, and has been involved with Meeting Professionals International throughout her hospitality career.

The Hilton Garden Inn Denver Downtown is located at 1400 Welton Street. For additional information go to



www.denverdowntown.stayhgi.com or call 303-603-8000.

About Stonebridge Companies

Founded in 1991 by Navin C. Diamond, Stonebridge Companies is a privately owned, innovative hotel management company headquartered near Denver, Colorado, which has developed over 60 hotels and operated more than 75 lodging properties. Currently, Stonebridge Companies operates nearly 40 hotels comprising approximately 6,000 guest rooms in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, Utah, Virginia and Washington. The diverse portfolio includes select-service, extended stay, mid-scale and full-service hotels in primary and secondary markets. For detailed information, visit www.StonebridgeCompanies.com.

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Ultra-Luxury Villa Castellamonte Announced Fractional Owners Program

Villa Castellamonte, widely regarded as one of the most popular and exclusive privately owned luxury vacation villas, announced the release of its Fractional Owners Program enabling investors to acquire 1/10th shares in the villa.

Cabrera, Dominican Republic (PRWEB) Jul 10, 2009 -- Villa Castellamonte, one of the Dominican Republic's most exclusive 5 star ultra-luxury private villas, announced today the unveiling of its recently established Fractional Owners Program. The Fractional Owners Program allows accredited investors to purchase 1/10th "units" in this highly regarded vacation villa. Fractional owners are then able to enjoy five weeks use of the fully staffed villa and rotate those weeks annually. Management of the villa will remain with North Coast Management, S.A.

"Fractional ownership programs are found throughout the world, allowing investors to own and enjoy a property of a much higher value than they could typically afford individually," commented Jason Matthews, the current sole owner of Villa Castellamonte. He continued, "For me, the rationale to fractionalize made sense because although my ownership will be less, so too will be my expenses." Mr. Matthews is retaining 2 units (20% ownership) in Villa Castellamonte for his own personal use and enjoyment.

A key element of the new fractional ownership program is the availability of financing. Citing the economic rocky road, Mr. Matthews is offering to personally finance accredited investors seeking to purchase one or more units through the program. Further, realtors and brokers are also compensated under the program.

Villa Castellamonte has been seen on MSNBC's On the Money, cited as a "Top Ten" villa by Caribbeanway/AskMen and noted as a "Fodor's Choice" destination in their 2009 travel guide as well as consistently receives excellent guest reviews on Flipkey.com (TripAdvisor for vacation rentals).

About Villa Castellamonte

Villa Castellamonte is a private, 15,000 sq. ft., 8-bedroom / 10-bath, fully staffed luxury villa vacation destination located in on the north coast near the town of Cabrera, Dominican Republic. Villa Castellamonte may be contacted at 866-VILLA10 (Int'l +1-610-429-9616) or found online at www.villacastellamonte.com and most luxury villa rental listing sites worldwide. The villa is exclusively managed by North Coast Management, found online at www.northcoastmanagement.com.

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East Africa Facelift For Hayes & Jarvis In First Dedicated Africa Brochure

Long haul specialist Hayes & Jarvis, has given its holiday programme to East Africa a facelift for its first dedicated Africa brochure, launched on the back of a strong recovery by Kenya after 2008's election riots.

London (PRWEB) July 10, 2009 -- Long haul specialist [Hayes & Jarvis](#), has given its holiday programme to East Africa a facelift for its first dedicated Africa brochure, launched on the back of a strong recovery by Kenya after 2008's election riots. The 52-page Africa Collection brochure features a much expanded safari and beach programme to Kenya, traditionally one of Hayes & Jarvis' best sellers.

One of the best times to see Kenya in all its glory, says Hayes & Jarvis, is during the annual Wildebeest Migration, one of the last wildlife wonders of the world. Every year an estimated 1.5 million wildebeest, 200,000 zebra and 400,000 gazelles migrate from the short grass plains of the Serengeti in Tanzania into Kenya's Masai Mara Game Reserve, pursued relentlessly by a band of Africa's great predators.

Although the exact timing of the Wildebeest Migration varies, the best time to see it in the Masai Mara this year will be in August and September. A prime site from which to watch the spectacle is at one of Kenya's most exclusive addresses - Little Governors' Camp - overlooking a water hole and approached by boat across the Mara River. Intended to recreate the atmosphere of the original hunting camps, 17 tents-cum-luxury suites are clustered around the water hole, each with a large verandah from which to watch the wildlife.

On Hayes & Jarvis' new five-star Governors Safari, a three-night stay at Little Governors' Camp combines with two at Loldia House, another Governors' Camp Collection property near the flamingos and white rhino of Lake Nakuru National Park. The six-day safari is one of 11 now featured by Hayes & Jarvis and costs £2,679 per person in September for a trip that includes Kenya Airways flights from London Heathrow, full board accommodation, game drives in open 4x4 vehicles and park entrance fees.

Meanwhile Little Governors' brother - Governors' Camp - is one of three exclusive addresses featured in Hayes & Jarvis' new [Exclusive Fly-In Safaris](#). The others are Elsa's Kopje, made famous by the film Born Free, in Meru National Park, and Tortilis Camp an award-winning eco-tourism tented camp facing the white snowcap of Kilimanjaro in the Amboseli National Park. These shorter four-day fly- in safaris are designed to be combined a Mombasa beach stay and prices start from £879 for four days at Tortilis Camp.

Short 'taster' safaris, suitable as combinations with [Mombasa Beach holidays](#), are also included in the new brochure and lead in at £349 per person for a three day 'taster' Ziwani Safari.

More four and five-star beach resorts have been added to the product offer along the Mombasa coastline - among these the multi award-winning Pinewood Village boutique hotel at Galu Beach, Hemingways inside the Watamu Marine Park, and [Baobab Beach Resort](#) and Kole Kole on South Diani Beach, where five nights all-inclusive accommodation including flights starts from £909 per person.

Led by The Cove, Hayes & Jarvis has also introduced a trio of small, adults-only All Inclusive eco retreats to its

Kenya beach programme - all three located in a quiet bay south of the main [Mombasa resorts](#). Community activities and conservation form an important part of the eco concept at Gazi Bay Tented Beach Retreat and Kinondo Beach Retreat, as well as at The Cove - and each offers a genuinely romantic hideaway for couples. Prices start from £52 per person per night at Kinondo Beach Retreat, rising to from £71 per person per night at The Cove

Hayes & Jarvis Programme Director Lesley Rollo said: "Our bookings for Kenya are now three times the level of last year, which means that the destination has almost totally recovered to 2007 levels. This comes on the back of some clever tactical manoeuvring by hotels and airlines which meant that we have been able to offer great value holidays to customers this year."

"Now the time is right to lift the programme to Kenya with more varied beach accommodation and a greater range of safaris, long and short, and the dedicated brochure gives us the perfect opportunity to spotlight the new additions."

The same strategy has been applied to Hayes & Jarvis' programme to Tanzania, where the safari expansion includes a four-day Exclusive Serengeti Fly-In featuring the brand new luxury Bilila Lodge Kempinski. A longer Kenya and Tanzania Classic safari features a visit to the chimpanzee sanctuary at Sweetwaters and leads across the Masai Mara into the Serengeti (10-day safari from £3,776 per person).

The chic 35-room Z Hotel, opened in 2008 and described as a 'boutique on the beach' on the northern tip of Zanzibar, leads the expanded resort range on the island. Additions include the Zanzibar Serena Inn, the Island's most famous hotel, located on the sea front of the ancient capital Stone Town. Prices start from £66 per person per night at the Z Hotel and from £85 per person per night at the Serena Inn.

Away from Kenya and Tanzania, Hayes & Jarvis Africa Collection also features an expanded South Africa programme, which offers more city, touring and safari options to cater for the heightened demand expected as interest in the 2010 World Cup mounts. Mozambique, Botswana and Zambia have also been introduced as twin-centre extensions to South Africa.

Valid for bookings from September 2009 until January 2011, Africa Collection prices start from £779 per person for a five night All Inclusive package at the four-star [Voyager Beach Resort](#) in Mombasa, including return flights from London Heathrow and transfers (valid November 2009).

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).

Superbreak Encourages Michael Jackson Fans to Still Head to London

Superbreak is encouraging fans of Michael Jackson fans to travel to London, despite the singer's death and subsequent cancellation of his return to the stage.

Kingston, Surrey (PRWEB) July 12, 2009 -- Short break specialist Superbreak is encouraging Michael Jackson fans that had tickets to the singer's sold out shows at London's O2 Arena to follow through with their hotel bookings, as London will be home to a number of other musical events and ways of paying tribute to the career of Michael Jackson this summer.

Superbreak offered full refunds to fans who had booked a hotel in London (<http://www.superbreak.com/london.htm>) to see Michael Jackson following the singer's death but the company expect many ticket holders to come to London anyway, and enjoy other events on offer.

Ray Jones, marketing director at Superbreak commented: "The sad loss of Michael Jackson was a shock to us all. Many people will have planned to come to the Capital for a few days and take in the show and I urge them to still visit. There has been much debate as to what will replace his shows at the O2 and as yet this is unknown. There are rumours of a memorial concert in London and if this does take place, then I would expect fans to snap tickets up as well as West End London hotels (http://www.superbreak.com/topcities/london_hotels_west_end-7.htm). However, Madame Tussauds has unveiled his new wax model and I wouldn't be surprised if other tributes to him are developed going forward."

The new Michael Jackson figure recently unveiled in the music zone of Madame Tussauds was originally created to mark Jackson's return to the live stage but is now a fitting tribute. This is the 13th time the singer has been portrayed, making him the most featured star ever at Madame Tussauds.

Superbreak has also suggested that Jackson fans enjoy a London theatre break (<http://www.superbreak.com/theatre-breaks.htm>) to see a performance of the "Thriller - Live" show, a stage and video spectacular that charts the history of Michael Jackson's contributions to the world of music, featuring 20 performers and over two hours of hits.

The O2 Arena will continue to promote a number of musical events this season, including the British Music Experience, a permanent, interactive exhibition dedicated to the history of popular music in Britain. Using state-of-the-art effects it will show how rock, pop, dance and many other genres were formed and have influenced the last 60 years of British Culture. Performances from bands such as Pearl Jam, Nine Inch Nails and, American R&B star, Ne-Yo are also scheduled for the O2 in the coming weeks, leaving music fans with multiple options for musical entertainment when they arrive in London.

Superbreak offer a range of hotels near London (http://www.superbreak.com/topcities/london_hotels_west_end-7.htm) including packages to all the above which combine overnight accommodation with tickets to the show or attraction.

About Superbreak:



Superbreak is the internet division of Superbreak Mini Holidays Limited, the market leader for short breaks and hotels throughout the UK. Superbreak is part of Holiday Break plc, a publicly quoted leisure company whose share price can be found in most major UK newspapers, or at Holidaybreak.com.

Based in York, England, Superbreak specialises in booking 2-5 star hotel accommodation throughout Britain for the leisure traveller. Superbreak holds allocations of rooms at all hotels and can make bookings up to and on the day of departure.

Today more than 1.5 million customers enjoy short breaks from Superbreak which include theatre breaks, theme park and attraction breaks and luxury breaks

For more information, please contact:

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).

Ashes Cricket Means Hottest British Airways Fares

British Airways is offering massive fare reductions, for flights between England and Australia. Prices will be determined by Australia's first innings with the availability of seats determined by England's reply.

Crawley, Essex (PRWEB) July 12, 2009 -- The batting of Kevin Pietersen or the bowling of Andrew Flintoff could bring massive British Airways fare reductions, for fliers between England and Australia during the latest Ashes contest series.

For one of the five tests, national carriers British Airways (http://www.britishairways.com/travel/home/public/en_gb) and Qantas are teaming up to offer fares on flights to Australia (http://www.britishairways.com/travel/australia/public/en_gb) based on innings scores, with the number of seats determined by the amount of runs scored by the opposing team.

For the second npower Test at Lord's (July 16-20), the price of flights will be determined by Australia's first innings, with availability of seats determined by England's reply.

For example, if Australia are bowled out for 230 and England make 395, there will be 395 seats available from each airline at £230 - an amazing reduction on a typical fare of £730.

From July 21, customers wanting to fly with British Airways can visit britishairways.com while Qantas customers should check on qantas.com.

Visitors taking their first flight to Sydney (http://www.britishairways.com/travel/sydney/public/en_gb) will be dazzled by endless beaches, the relaxed outdoor lifestyle and exciting architecture from the Opera House sails to the arched harbour. British Airways offers a variety of accommodation and Avis car rental in Sydney (http://www.britishairways.com/travel/car-rental-sydney/public/en_gb) to accompany its massive fare reductions.

Travellers can stay at the cosmopolitan Sebel Surry Hills, the perfect place from which to explore Sydney's major attractions or enjoy a treat at the 5* Blue Sydney in the heart of the marina on the Wharf at Woolloomooloo, or take a flight to Melbourne (http://www.britishairways.com/travel/melbourne/public/en_gb) and browse the funky boutiques in the GPO Building and waterfront dining in the docklands. Stay at the centrally located Citigate Albert Park, opposite the Grand Prix track or spend your savings at The Langham on the bank of the Yara River.

British Airways' consumer sales manager Simon Brooks said: "If it's anything like the previous Ashes, we expect to be bowled over with interest from customers. The Ashes is a highlight in the sporting calendar, and now there's an extra reason to get behind your team."

Stephen Thompson, executive manager international sales at Qantas Airlines said: "There's always a traditional friendly rivalry between the Brits and Aussies during the Ashes, and this promotion will ensure the second

power test is even more of an exciting showdown."

In the previous Ashes in 2005, British Airways offered 367 seats at £373 when Australia scored 367 runs for 373 against England in the final test. Flights were sold out within 30 minutes.

For qualifying travel periods please check each airline's website from July 21.

Ends

Notes to Editors

- Flights are only available in British Airways' World Traveller cabin and International Economy on Qantas
- The minimum return fare will be not be less than £125
- British Airways has had a Joint Services Agreement with Qantas since 1995 on the 'kangaroo route', between the UK and Australia, offering both airline's customers a greater choice of fares, products and services

About British Airways / British Airways Holidays Ltd

British Airways Holidays Ltd. is a fully owned subsidiary of British Airways plc, which offers a range of destinations, hotels, car rental and experiences. With many money-saving special offers available; and the security of travelling with British Airways, British Airways Holidays Ltd can add peace of mind to holiday plans. Working very closely with colleagues at British Airways, British Airways Holidays constantly seeks to exceed customers' expectations, both in terms of the value for money and quality of the service provided.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).

Third of Beach Holiday Bookings Rushed, Says AA Travel Insurance

About a third of holidaymakers wanting a simple 'bucket and spade' break in the Med or other popular beach destinations will check out offers, make up their mind and book all in one go.

Basingstoke, UK (PRWEB) July 11, 2009 -- Many UK families who take a seaside holiday abroad will give less than a day's thought to making their destination choice, says AA Travel Insurance.

Around a third of holidaymakers wanting a simple 'bucket and spade' break in the Med or other popular beach destinations will check out offers, make up their mind and book in one go.

AA Travel Insurance fears that either the lure of recession-busting cut-price holidays or shortage of money will make customers less careful when deciding where to go and who to stay with. This could result in disappointment when they arrive at their holiday resort or having to bear the cost of unforeseen mishaps.

Normally, just over two-fifths of people looking to book a seaside holiday abroad will take a week to decide, while a further fifth will take up to one month.

Men are a third more likely to book a holiday within 24 hours while women are more likely to take a month looking through the brochures. Sun seekers of retirement age are those most likely to take the greatest care over their holiday travel arrangements and book at least a month in advance.

The holiday package being offered may be considerably slimmed down on 'standard' extras, such as transfers and airport taxes and some will charge a high premium for 'optional' travel insurance.

Christian Young, AA Travel Insurance's chief executive said: "Holidaymakers are often tempted to just tick the 'insurance' box on their holiday application form as part of the package. But it is important that they make sure they understand the cover they are buying and ensure they get the best option in terms of both cover and cost.

"But wherever you buy your insurance, it is vital to declare medical conditions; otherwise a claim might not be valid. Also, look for 'kids go free' and family offers which will also help save money as well as giving families peace of mind."

AA Travel Insurance advises travellers who do leave things to the last minute to:

- Check that your travel operator is a member of ABTA or ATOL before booking your holiday
- Always check the insurance cover being offered properly meets your needs
- Put your passports, tickets and travel documents together in a safe place ready for departure and leave copies at home with family or friends.
- Ensure you have packed high protection factor sun cream, especially for youngsters, and wear sun hats when you get there
- You can arrange Travel Insurance at the last minute if you have forgotten to do so, by telephoning 0845 092 1729
- If you have a home insurance extension for personal possessions anywhere in the world, save money on your

travel insurance by excluding baggage cover

- Take EHIC cards if travelling in Europe (but do not consider them to be a replacement for travel insurance)
- You and your partner should each keep debit/credit cards while away in case one of you loses a wallet or purse

About AA Travel Insurance

At AA Travel Insurance our goal is make sure that you get a good deal on [travel insurance](#), so that whether you are travelling for business or pleasure you will always be covered.

AA Travel Insurance is a division of Drakefield Insurance Services Limited, authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. (Firm Registration No. 312317). Drakefield Insurance Services Limited is part of The AA.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



Kids Go Free With DialAFlight

The move follows DialAFlight's offer of free kids flights to the USA which was announced earlier in the year. Until the end of August, children accompanied by at least one adult can fly to many destinations including Orlando, New York and San Francisco, and pay nothing except taxes and surcharges.

London, UK (PRWEB) July 11, 2009 -- Travel company DialAFlight have announced plans to offer Free Child places to Dubai this summer.

The offer, in conjunction with Emirates, includes flights, hotels and food. One child (16 and under) flies free when accompanied by two paying adults and a second child flies for 75% of a full fare. A choice of hotels is on offer where both children can stay and eat for free, providing they share a room with two adults. Direct flights are available from Gatwick, Heathrow, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle and Glasgow.

The move follows DialAFlight's offer of free kids flights to the USA earlier in the year. Until the end of August, children accompanied by at least one adult can fly to several destinations including Orlando, New York and San Francisco, and pay nothing except taxes and surcharges.

DialAFlight have announced the Kids Go Free offer amidst a huge upsurge in travel bargains, as companies compete to win back consumers following the recession and swine flu crises.

Rock-bottom fares, free food and drinks on flights, hoteliers selling discounted rooms - all areas of the tourist trade are doing whatever it takes to win business.

About DialAFlight

DialAFlight is one of the UK's top travel companies offering flights, hotels, car hire, city breaks holidays, including [flights to Dubai](#) and [United States flights](#), travel insurance and Business Travel to help you to create the perfect all-inclusive trip to any worldwide destination. Because we've been in business for more than 25 years, we're able to secure the best travel industry rates available. We pride ourselves on our experienced sales staff who are all well-travelled and committed to creating your perfect trip - at bargain prices.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



Surf City USA Named DogTown USA® by Dog Fancy Magazine

Surf City USA announced today that they have been named "DogTown USA" in the category "medium-sized cities" by Dog Fancy magazine, the world's most widely read dog magazine.

Huntington Beach, California (Vocus) July 10, 2009 -- [Surf City USA](#) announced today that they have been named "DogTown USA" in the category "medium-sized cities" by Dog Fancy magazine, the world's most widely read dog magazine. The magazine researches cities each year after a public nomination period to discover cities that "receive dogs with open arms and provide them with the joys of life," according to Dog Fancy magazine editor Susan Chaney.

This isn't the first time Huntington Beach has been recognized for their friendliness toward canine companions: Huntington Beach was a runner-up in the 2008 DogTown USA competition. San Diego and Carmel-by-the-Sea were honored in the large and small city categories, providing California with a clean-sweep of this year's awards.

Chaney will travel to Huntington Beach to present this top honor at the city's July 20 City Council meeting, where she will present the DogTown USA honor to City of Huntington Beach Mayor Keith Bohr, along with donation check for \$2,000 to Martin Senate, president of Preservation Society of Huntington Dog Beach.

[Beach Fun for Dogs and their Buddies](#)

Huntington Beach was nominated for the award jointly by City staff and the Huntington Beach Marketing and Visitors Bureau (HBMVB). Criteria used to select the winning city included plenty of dog-friendly open spaces and dog parks, events celebrating dogs and their owners, high vet-to-dog ratios, abundant pet supply and other services, and municipal laws that support and protect all pets. According to Chaney, Huntington Beach excelled in all of those areas, and more.

In addition to this upcoming weekend's "Surfin' Paws Dog Jam" and semi-monthly Dachshund Races at Old World Village, Huntington Beach looks forward to the Surf City Surf Dog event on October 11. The City's most famous canine attraction, however, is the one-and-one-quarter-mile Huntington Dog Beach, a dog-friendly beach where dogs are allowed to run leash-free in the surf.

According to HBMVB President Steve Bone, "Dog Beach is over a mile of pooch paradise for running, playing, swimming, digging, sunbathing and even for some surfing. Volunteers help maintain cleanup of the sand and shoreline on Dog Beach, making the beach one of the cleanest and safest beaches in California."

"What's more," Bone adds, "Huntington Beach offers Canine Cuisine at Park Bench Café, specialty shops, and upscale dog-pampering hotels, and even a 'Doggie Bus.'"

Huntington Beach Dog Attractions:



- Huntington Dog Beach, DogBeach.org
 - Surfin' Paws Dog Jam, July 11, 2009: SurfinPaws.com
 - Surf City Surf Dog, October 11, 2009: SurfCitySurfDog.com
 - Dachshund Races at Old World Village, WienerDogStore.com
 - Doggie Bus, DoggieBus.com
 - Barking Dog Menu at Park Bench Café, ParkBenchCafe.com/dog_menu.htm
 - [Huntington Beach Dog Beach video](#): This video really gives you a feel of our laid-back, dog friendly lifestyle in Huntington Beach. It is also the most-downloaded video on the SurfCityUSA.com website, with over 300 downloads per month.
 - Dog-Friendly Accommodations in Huntington Beach: Hilton Waterfront Beach Resort, WaterfrontResort.com; Shorebreak Hotel, ShorebreakHotel.com; Extended Stay Suites, ExtendedStayHotels.com
- High-resolution photographs are available upon request.

About the Huntington Beach Marketing and Visitors Bureau

The Huntington Beach Marketing and Visitors Bureau (AKA Huntington Beach Conference and Visitors Bureau) is the official destination marketing organization of Huntington Beach, Surf City USA®. One of [Southern California's premier coastal destinations](#), Huntington Beach is the ideal location for a [California family vacation](#) or relaxing weekend getaway.

With 8.5 miles of wide-open white sand California beaches, [Huntington Beach](#) is a destination of choice for vacationers and business travelers alike. To plan your Surf City USA® vacation, or to learn more about Huntington Beach, visit the Huntington Beach Marketing and Visitors Bureau website at www.surfcityusa.com or call 800-729-6232 for a free Visitors Guide.

Surf City USA® is a registered mark of the Huntington Beach Conference and Visitors Bureau.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



Handlery Hotels Offers Dog Friendly Rooms

Handlery Hotels now offers dog friendly rooms at the Handlery Union Square Hotel in San Francisco and the Handlery Hotel and Resort in San Diego. "To launch our new dog friendly program we are having a Bring your Dog to Work Day," said Jon Handlery, President of Handlery Hotels. "This a great way to introduce our staff to our four-legged friends as well as let our guests know that we are dog friendly."

San Francisco, CA (PRWEB) July 11, 2009 -- Handlery Hotels now offers dog friendly rooms at the Handlery Union Square Hotel in San Francisco and the Handlery Hotel and Resort in San Diego. "To launch our new dog friendly program we are having a Bring your Dog to Work Day," said Jon Handlery, President of Handlery Hotels. "This a great way to introduce our staff to our four-legged friends as well as let our guests know that we are dog friendly."

Dogs only are permitted and there is a \$25.00 dog fee per day with a maximum weight of 40lbs. A portion of the fee will be donated to the SPCA and dogs receive a special treat for staying at the Handlery. For more information please visit our website at www.handlery.com.

In San Francisco's Union Square, just steps from the cable cars, shopping, theater and restaurants, the Handlery Union Square Hotel is the ideal location for a San Francisco visit.

The Handlery Hotel and Resort in San Diego is the perfect sunny resort in Southern California, noted for its famous swimming pool and location next to a 27-hole championship golf course and shopping.

The Handlery family has owned and operated hotels in California for over 80 years. As part of this family tradition, they are dedicated to the notion of giving more than the guest expects. More information on Handlery Hotels is available at www.handlery.com or 1-415-781-7800. Photos available at <ftp://www.prevalentdesign.net/> Username: Handlery Password: hotels09!

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



The JW Marriott Nanjing Road Luxury Hotel in Shanghai offers a full 360 Degree View of a Rare Solar Eclipse

Secure a 360 degree View of the Solar Eclipse at the Best Viewing Spot in Shanghai at the JW Marriott Luxury Hotel on Nanjing Road

Shanghai, China (PRWEB) July 11, 2009 -- Witness the longest total solar eclipse in over a century in style at the [JW Marriott Nanjing Road luxury hotel in Shanghai](#) on July 22nd. Watch the morning sun turn to darkness during this rare total eclipse during your breakfast at the best viewing spot in town. The iconic and futuristic Tomorrow Square building in the heart of the Shanghai is host to the majestic JW Marriott [Luxury Hotel on Nanjing Road](#) which will provide a clear, 360 degree view of this must-see event from the hotel's lobby on the 38th floor. Book this fabulous package now at <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/hotel-deals/shajw-jw-marriott-hotel-shanghai-at-tomorrow-square/> and secure a 360 degree viewing experience in one of the finest Nanjing Road luxury hotels in Shanghai.

The 360° Solar Eclipse Package is priced at 2660RMB* per room, including one night's accommodation in a deluxe room, Champagne breakfast in the Marriott Café with 360 degree views of the city, or you can enjoy the experience in the comfort of your own room and order room service breakfast. The package also includes a magical spa experience at the award winning Mandara spa. The Champagne breakfast alone is available at RMB360** per person which includes special viewing glasses for you to take away as souvenir. For an open-air viewing of the eclipse guests will have access to our outdoor swimming pool area on level 7 where you can marvel at one of nature's truly amazing events.

Standing 60 stories high towering the Puxi skyline the JW Marriott Nanjing Road luxury hotel offers quite possibly the best view of Shanghai. It faces the famed People's Park and Square, Shanghai's former race track from the decadent era of the 1920's and 30's. The luxury hotel on Nanjing Road in Shanghai offers a breakfast with 360° views of the city where the scene will be set for a fantastic morning whilst watching the once in a life time moon-sun-earth conjunction. The viewing from the Nanjing Road luxury hotel's plush lobby leads directly from the breakfast area of the Marriott Café. The floor to ceiling windows drench the lobby with natural daylight and will provide a sensational viewing for the eclipse.

For guests discovering Shanghai for the first time, why not book a personal driver to cruise you through the streets of this edgy and dynamic metropolis. Your driver will take you on a journey that will feature all the major city sights, including the famous BUND, French Concession and so many more interesting and untouched corners of Shanghai. The tour will be tailored to your choice by our team of highly skilled concierge***.

Then, upon returning to the JW Marriott Nanjing Road luxury hotel in Shanghai, the Mandara Spa will welcome guests back with a 360° astrophysical treatment, providing the perfect way to relax after your exciting journey. The traditional Chinese medical massage is used as a natural therapy to eliminate syndromes, restores balance to the body and enhances your overall wellbeing.



For reservations for this unique event, please call: (86 21) 5359 4969 or visit the Nanjing Road luxury hotel's website at: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/shajw-jw-marriott-hotel-shanghai-at-tomorrow-square/>

Note to editors: a solar eclipse can only happen during a new moon, when the sun and moon are in conjunction as seen from the earth. This Shanghai solar eclipse is the longest total solar eclipse in the twenty-first century, and will not be surpassed in duration until June 13, 2132. The astronomical phenomenon begins with a partial eclipse starting at 08:23am and finishing at 11:01am, and the full eclipse will totally last about five minutes from 09:36am to 09:41am.

*Plus 15% surcharge and includes 2 adults (subject to availability)

** Plus 15% surcharge, children half price

*** Prices from 800RMB based on a minimum of four hours

Photo Caption:

360° view at JW Marriott Hotel Shanghai

MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL, INC. (NYSE:MAR) is a leading lodging company with more than 2,700 lodging properties in the United States and 65 other countries and territories. Marriott International operates and franchises hotels under the Marriott, JW Marriott, Renaissance, Bulgari, The Ritz-Carlton, Courtyard, Renaissance Inn, SpringHill Suites, TownePlace Suite and Fairfield Inns brand names; develops and operates vacation ownership resorts under the Marriott Vacation Club International, The Ritz-Carlton Club, Grand Residences by Marriott, and Horizons brands; operates Marriott Executive Apartments; provides furnished corporate housing through its Marriott ExecuStay division; operates conference centers; and manages golf courses. The company is headquartered in metropolitan Washington, D.C. It is ranked as the lodging industry's most admired company and one of the best places to work for by Fortune® magazine. In fiscal year 2004, Marriott International reported sales from continuing operations of \$10 billion, and the company had approximately 133,000 employees at year-end 2004. For more information or reservations, please visit our web site at www.marriott.com.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).

News Image





Renaissance Hotel St. Louis Airport Renovates Guest Rooms

High-Tech renovations include High-Definition Flat Panel TVs and Multimedia Connectivity Panels in each all-new St. Louis, MO Hotel Room.

Saint Louis, MO (PRWEB) July 11, 2009 -- The Renaissance [Hotel St. Louis Airport](#) recently enhanced all of its guest rooms with new 37" high-definition flat panel televisions and a new in-room ergonomic workstation.

The newly remodeled guest rooms at this St. Louis hotel provide the guests with an experience which brings together comfort with connectivity. Guests can now connect all of their electronic devices into the in-room desk that provides a multi-media interface. The in-room technology center has connections for Ethernet, telephone and also electrical outlets to conveniently allow guests to work more efficiently while enjoying the luxurious accommodations offered at the Renaissance [Hotel in St. Louis, MO](#).

The 37" high-definition flat panel televisions include over forty channels to enjoy while relaxing in any of the St. Louis, MO hotel's guest rooms. The remote in the guest room also allows access to movies, games, e-mail, news, and much more with just the touch of a button. The televisions also have a connectivity panel that allows guests to watch and listen to digital devices including laptops and MP3 players.

The Renaissance [Hotel St. Louis Airport](#) is managed by Davidson Hotel Company, one of the nation's largest hotel management companies. Davidson recently completed a nine million dollar renovation of the Renaissance hotel in St. Louis, Missouri, which offers 393 luxurious accommodations and 37,000 square feet of meeting/event space. The St. Louis hotel recently upgraded to wireless internet in every guest room. Lambert- St. Louis International Airport is conveniently located less than a mile from the hotel and complimentary shuttles run from the hotel 24 hours a day. For more information or to make reservations at the Renaissance Hotel St. Louis Airport, call the hotel at 314-429-1100 or the St. Louis hotel's website at: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/stlsa-renaissance-st-louis-hotel-airport/>.

MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL, Inc. (NYSE:MAR) is a leading lodging company with more than 3,100 lodging properties in 66 countries and territories. Marriott International operates and franchises hotels under the Marriott, JW Marriott, The Ritz-Carlton, Renaissance, Residence Inn, Courtyard, TownePlace Suites, Fairfield Inn, SpringHill Suites and Bulgari brand names; develops and operates vacation ownership resorts under the Marriott Vacation Club, Horizons by Marriott Vacation Club, The Ritz-Carlton Club and Grand Residences by Marriott brands; operates Marriott Executive Apartments; provides furnished corporate housing through its Marriott ExecuStay division; and operates conference centers. The company is headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, USA and had approximately 146,000 employees at 2008 year-end. It is recognized by BusinessWeek as one of the 100 best global brands, by FORTUNE® as one of the best companies to work for, and by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as Partner of the Year since 2004. In fiscal year 2008, Marriott International reported sales from continuing operations of nearly \$13 billion. For more information or reservations, please visit Marriott hotels online at www.marriott.com.

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You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).

News Image





Marriott's Shadow Ridge Announces Pay Two Stay Three Night Deal With Added Bonus

Guests Can Choose From Unlimited Golf at Marriott's Shadow Ridge Golf Club, or a \$100 Resort Credit

Palm Desert, CA (PRWEB) July 11, 2009 -- Marriott's Shadow Ridge, a Marriott Vacation Club resort, is pleased to offer a special package deal - guests who reserve a one- or two-bedroom villa for a two-night stay will not only get the third night free, but can choose an additional amenity - either unlimited golf for two at Marriott's Shadow Ridge Golf Club, a premier [Palm Desert golf course](#), or a \$100 resort credit good towards food, beverages or other activities on resort property.

The unlimited golf option is only available through September 12, 2009, and the \$100 resort credit is available through the end of the year. Guests can call 1-800-VILLAS-9 and refer to promotional code ZJL to take advantage of this limited-time offer, which includes golf cart fees.

Marriott's Shadow Ridge recently revealed the brand's latest innovation in villa design with 73 additional two-bedroom, two-bath villas. The new deluxe lock-off concept features an open and flexible design with two completely separate living rooms, balconies and a kitchen and kitchenette, allowing guests to divide villas into two separate accommodations. Each spacious villa ranges from approximately 1,110 to 1,330 square feet and includes a fully equipped kitchen with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances and custom cabinetry; generous living and dining areas; luxurious bedding; multiple flat-panel televisions with DVD players; private balcony; washer/dryer and Wi-Fi internet access. The resort currently offers 497 out of a proposed 984 villas at build out.

Located in the heart of Palm Desert, [Marriott's Shadow Ridge](#) offers a wide variety of resort amenities including the Marriott's Shadow Ridge Golf Club, the first [Nick Faldo-designed championship golf course](#) in the U.S., and the Faldo Golf Institute by Marriott. The elegant sophistication and surrounding natural beauty of the Palm Desert area make this oasis a coveted vacation destination boasting endless recreation, world class dining and shopping, along with luxurious spa offerings. Marriott's Shadow Ridge is a 10 mile drive from Palm Springs International Airport.

About Marriott Vacation Club

Marriott Vacation Club is the recognized worldwide leader in vacation ownership with a program highly regarded for its quality and unique flexibility. Celebrating 25 years of unforgettable experiences that make vacation dreams come true; Marriott became the first branded hospitality company by nearly a decade to enter the timeshare industry in 1984. Marriott Vacation Club continues to expand with a diverse portfolio of more than 11,000 timeshare resort villas throughout the U.S., Caribbean, Europe and Asia. Today, more than 395,000 Owner families around the globe own their vacations "the Marriott way," offering options to exchange weeks with priority within the Marriott Vacation Club portfolio or within Interval International's global system of more than 2,400 resorts in over 75 countries, trade their week(s) for Marriott Rewards points, or rent their week(s). For more information, please visit www.marriott-vacations.com. For nightly rentals, please visit www.marriott.com.



James Woelbern
Marriott Vacation Club International
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MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL, Inc. (NYSE:MAR) is a leading lodging company with more than 3,200 lodging properties in 66 countries and territories. Marriott International operates and franchises hotels under the Marriott, JW Marriott, The Ritz-Carlton, Renaissance, Residence Inn, Courtyard, TownePlace Suites, Fairfield Inn, SpringHill Suites and Bulgari brand names; develops and operates vacation ownership resorts under the Marriott Vacation Club, The Ritz-Carlton Destination Club and Grand Residences by Marriott brands; operates Marriott Executive Apartments; provides furnished corporate housing through its Marriott ExecuStay division; and operates conference centers. The company is headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, USA, and had approximately 146,000 employees at 2008 year-end. It is recognized by BusinessWeek as one of the 100 best global brands, by FORTUNE® as one of the best companies to work for, and by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as Partner of the Year since 2004. In fiscal year 2008, Marriott International reported sales from continuing operations of nearly \$13 billion. For more information or reservations, please visit our web site at www.marriott.com.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



HotelTravel.com Kicks Off Red 'Best Value' Hotel Deals to Promote Liverpool FC in Bangkok and Singapore

HotelTravel.com is launching its Red 'Best Value' promotion to ensure Liverpool football supporters in Asia "will never walk alone" for the two upcoming friendly matches in Bangkok and Singapore. Liverpool's loyal legion of Asian fans are hoping the Red's pre-season tour will be the catalyst for captain Steven Gerrard's side to finally end their 20-year championship drought with a league title.

Phuket (PRWEB) July 11, 2009 -- HotelTravel.com is kicking off its new Red 'Best Value' hotel promotion for Liverpool FC friendly matches in Bangkok and Singapore, offering extra discounts on already cut-to-the-bone hotel rates.

In preparation for the start of the 2009/2010 Premier League kick off mid-August the Anfield side will undertake a short trip to the region to face the national teams of Thailand in Bangkok on July 22 and Singapore on 26 July.

HotelTravel.com Online Marketing Manager and lifetime Liverpool fanatic, Mr Gareth Lewis, is hoping the club's pre-season tour of South East Asia later this summer will be the catalyst for Rafael Benitez's Reds to finally end their long 20 year championship drought without a league title.

"HotelTravel.com is delighted to launch its Red 'Best Value' hotel promotion to help Liverpool supporters coming to Bangkok and Singapore for the two friendly matches to take advantage of some of the best hotel deals anywhere.

"Like the majority of other Liverpool supporters living in Asia, I think about the club every day," Mr Lewis said.

A 'Best Value' rate is identifiable by the distinctive red door card hanger that mirrors the new HotelTravel.com yellow door card hanger corporate logo.

The 'Best Value' promotion, offers extra discounts on HotelTravel.com's Guaranteed Lowest Rate policy. Rates change very frequently with a fast turnaround at incredibly low prices. This means that a 'Best Value' offer might no longer be available the next hour or the next day, as all rooms offered for the promotions have been sold.

According to Mr Lewis, when a 'Best Value' offer is displayed, it is a good idea to snap it up immediately.

"These matches were only announced the first week of May. Fortunately the beauty of 'Best Value' rates is that the promotion is perfect for booking hotels on very short notice. Other great 'Best Value' deals quickly replace sold out ones, so the important thing is to keep on the lookout for the Liverpool Red 'Best Value' door card hanger," he added.

For [Bangkok Hotels](#), the closest hotel near the capital's Rajamangala Stadium (also known as Huamark Stadium),

is All Seasons Bangkok Huamark Hotel (from US\$ 33 per night). Other hotels located near the stadium that offer easy expressway access to the match include [Maxx Hotel](#) (from US\$ 44 per night), [Emerald Hotel](#) (from US\$ 59 per night), [Grand Mercure Fortune Hotel Bangkok](#) (from US\$ 61 per night), [Radisson Hotel Bangkok](#) (from US\$ 64 per night) and [Novotel Bangna Hotel](#) (from US\$ 110 per night).*

As of press time tickets in some parts of the stadium were already sold out. Tickets are only available in the North Zone 600 baht (US\$ 17.50**) available directly from Profitable Group's offices in Bangkok. Ring the Profitable Group Bangkok Office ticket hot line on +66 (02) 653-2201 for availability.

A number of West Zone Maroon 1,750 baht (US\$ 51.50**) and West Zone Orange 2,500 baht (US\$ 73.50**) tickets are also available from Adidas shops and from the Profitable Group offices. Tickets in the South Zone, West Zone Yellow and East Zone Kop have already sold out. Tickets for Liverpool's match in Singapore on July 26 are in equally short supply, with just 19 Grand Balcony seats available at press time.

For [Singapore hotels](#), featured properties near Singapore National Stadium include Grand Mercure Roxy Hotel (from US\$ 117 per night), [Golden Landmark Hotel](#) (from US\$ 133 per night), [Pan Pacific Hotel Singapore](#) (from US\$ 148 per night), Inter-Continental Hotel Singapore (from US\$ 194 per night), [Mandarin Oriental Hotel](#) (from US\$ 201 per night) and Marina Mandarin (from US\$ 269 per night).

In announcing the South East Asia friendly series the club said Liverpool received offers from 15 or 16 countries, but chose Thailand and Singapore because the club wanted to create brand awareness and sustainable loyalty among fans in Asia.

Mr Lewis predicted the players would be inspired by the passion of Liverpool supporters in Asia, as well as the welcome and hospitality they receive in both cities.

"I was at Anfield in 1990 when the last Liverpool side won the league title, and I will be in Rajamangala Stadium in Bangkok to cheer them on again. I really believe that the strong support that Liverpool enjoys around the Asian region will give the players a huge lift leading up to the new Premier League Season," he added.

*All hotel rates are as of 11 July, 2009, priced in US dollars and subject to change.

**Currency conversion estimates are based on exchange rates as of 11 July, 2009.

About HotelTravel.com

HotelTravel.com is a leader in worldwide hotel bookings and a pioneer in online customer service, providing the inside track to the best deals and discounts for hotels in more than 100 countries. Founded in 1999, the company's multi-lingual website offers eight languages - English, Chinese, Japanese, French, German, Spanish, Italian, and Korean - supported by a 24-hour customer service centre staffed by native speakers in each language. The company employs over 300 staff with offices in Thailand, Malaysia and China.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).

News Image



Purple Parking Launches Website with Quickest Booking Engine in Sector

UK's leading airport parking provider releases new, user-friendly web site.

London (PRWEB) July 11, 2009 -- Purple Parking, the UK's leading [airport parking](#) provider, has released a new web site that not only boasts the quickest booking engine in the sector, but dozens of pages of useful information for travellers.

Purple Parking has upgraded its entire booking system to ensure users can reserve their car parking space within minutes. Mark Hinge, Managing Director, says: "We wanted to make the process quick and simple. The booking engine on the web site has gone through dozens of enhancements to make it as user-friendly as possible, and I am delighted with the end result."

Established in 1990, Purple Parking offers parking at 20 airports around the UK. Over one million people have used the company's [Heathrow airport parking](#) services. Purple Parking owns the largest car park in the country near the airport, with 10,000 parking spaces.

As well as an innovative booking engine, a new service allows users to book a hotel room near their hotel. Mark Hinge believes this will prove to be particularly popular: "many clients have requested this and, by staying at a hotel by the airport the night before their journey, they will be able to continue their journey refreshed."

The new website, designed by a leading London design agency, features detailed information about individual airports and the 50 car parks that Purple Parking serves. The Purple Parking Price Promise on the site guarantees the lowest rates to customers.

It also sees the revival of Mr Purple, the cartoon character who was a much-loved hallmark of Purple Parking's branding in the early days.

About Purple Parking

Purple Parking Limited is Heathrow's leading off airport car park operator and one of the largest distributors of airport parking in the UK. Established in 1990 the award-winning company offers car parking at 20 airports across the country.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).

News Image



New England Marriott Hotels Announce Winners of Second Annual Wedding Giveaway Contest

New England Marriott Hotels announces the winners of the Second Annual Wedding Giveaway. The winning couple will receive a free Marriott hotel wedding reception at the Boston Marriott Quincy Hotel.

Boston, MA (PRWEB) July 11, 2009 -- Amanda Keady of Braintree, MA and Lance Mazzariello of Staten Island, NY are having a dream wedding on October 3, 2009, courtesy of the New England Marriott Hotels. The couple entered Marriott's second annual New England Wedding Giveaway this spring, and was selected as the winners of a free Marriott hotel wedding at the Boston Marriott Quincy Hotel. Their wedding contest prize is valued at \$10,000.

Couples who booked a wedding reception at one of 10 participating New England Marriott hotels between November 1, 2008 and April 1, 2009 were invited to participate in the wedding giveaway contest. To enter, couples submitted a video essay. A third party panel of wedding experts judged the videos, based on originality, creativity, faithfulness to theme, and credibility. To see Amanda and Lance's winning wedding contest video, please visit <http://www.easternmarriott.com/newenglandweddinggiveaway/>.

Participating New England Marriott hotels included:

- Boston Marriott Burlington Hotel
- Boston Marriott Cambridge Hotel
- Boston Marriott Copley Place Hotel
- Boston Marriott Long Wharf Hotel
- Boston Marriott Newton Hotel
- Boston Marriott Peabody Hotel
- Boston Marriott Quincy Hotel
- Newport Marriott Hotel
- Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel
- Courtyard Boston Downtown/Tremont Hotel

The Judging Committee:

In order to select a winning couple for the wedding contest, the New England Marriott Hotels went right to the experts, selecting a group of local wedding service purveyors who viewed each of the entries, relying on their areas of expertise to select the most deserving couple.

The judges were:

- Coleen O'Donnell, Coleen's Flower Shop; www.coleensflowershop.net
- Vladi Gorchev, The Perfect Image; www.PerfectImagePhoto.com
- Raffi Keabajian, DJ Raffi Professional Music and Lighting Productions; www.djraffi.com

About the Winning Couple:

Amanda and Lance met eight years ago at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island. Upon graduation, Amanda was offered an executive management position with a major hotel chain in Portland, Oregon,



and Lance accepted a job at a high volume restaurant in Times Square, NY. Three years later, Lance decided to "steal Amanda away." He made his intentions known to her family, gained their blessing on a marriage proposal, and then flew to Portland to pop the question. Amanda said yes, resigned from her job with two weeks notice, and then the newly engaged couple embarked on their pre-nuptial road trip across the country to New York.

"The judging panel loved this couple. Amanda and Lance were selected based on their story, as well as their sincerity and warmth as a couple, which they displayed throughout their video," said New England Marriott Hotels Marketing and eCommerce Manager Lynne McLaughlin

The Marriott Hotels of New England, along with over 2,400 Marriott-affiliated hotels worldwide, participates in the company's award-winning Marriott Rewards® frequent guest program. Members earn their choice of points toward free vacations or frequent flyer mileage for dollars spent at Marriott International branded hotels worldwide.

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New England Marriott Hotels

New England Marriott Hotels

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).

Record-breaking Estonian National Party

The last concert of the [Estonian Song and Dance Celebration](#) that ended few days ago broke several records and was more popular than the last concert of Michael Jackson in Tallinn.

Tallinn, Estonia (PRWEB) July 10, 2009 -- The 3-day traditional Estonian festival [Song and Dance Celebration](#) was visited by 153, 000 listeners-viewers from all over the world, including from the USA, Canada, Australia, Japan and of course the neighbouring countries of Estonia. A clear proof of the popularity of the Estonian national celebration is that the number of people visiting the concert of the best known artist of the world, King of Pop Michael Jackson was several thousand less.

In total 864 choirs with 26,430 singers and musicians performed to the masses of people at the Song Celebration that started with a [parade](#) that is unique in the world. Hits of classical music as well as Estonian traditional tunes to which people actively sang along, were performed at the Song Celebration ground. The 2-day Song Celebration ended officially on Sunday at 7 PM but people stayed at the festival ground and the choirs kept singing known traditional tunes. Before the night fell the [Estonian Song and Dance Celebration](#) ended and the 37, 000 performers returned home.

Singers from all over the world participated at the Song Celebration but the majority of them were from Estonia where choir music is the most popular hobby among people. 26, 430 singers and musicians of children, female and male as well as mixed choirs performed together on Sunday. The oldest singer was 92-year old bass singer Endel Reinberg who went to the Song Celebration for the first time in 1938. To stay in shape, the gentleman goes to choir practice every week.

Paul Kiilaspea, singer of the Toronto Estonian male choir said that the atmosphere at the festival was grand. "Last time we came five years ago. The men are in good mood, people received us very well" said Kiilaspea who will stay in Estonia for a while with his daughter and father.

"To participate in Song Celebration and feel this Estonianess that we have here in Estonia - it's great!" said Caucasian Estonian Arnold Rutto. He has been living in Estonia for the past three years and helped his relatives who had come from Caucasus move about during the Song Celebration.

"We also participated in the parade yesterday. Although we were few, we were seen, heard and greeted. This is really very important, it is a tradition," said Arnold. Both of his grandmothers belong to the 28-member group - among others the 15 singers of the choir Kaukaasia Laulumemmed (Caucasian Singing Mammams) -, who had come from by the Black Sea to enjoy the celebration in Estonia.

"They came by train through St. Petersburg and from St. Petersburg by bus to here. It took them two and a half or even three days. One of the grandmothers is already 78 and the other 82 years old. It is not easy for them to take on such a trip and travel such a long way. But they are Estonian patriots and thanks to my grandmothers my Estonian is so good!"

Indrek Teder, Chancellor of Justice of Estonia who carried the flag of Estonia in the Song Celebration parade thinks that the positive aura of the Song Celebrations is created by the feeling of unity. This was the name of this year's Song and Dance Celebration: [To Breathe As One](#).

The Estonian national celebrations started on Friday with the Pillipidu (Instrument Party) at the Town Hall Square of Tallinn which is a part of the UNESCO World Heritage, where the brass bands and traditional music ensembles performed to thousands of Estonians. The popular Dance Celebration took place on Saturday when 534 dance and gymnastics groups with in total 7,460 performers performed. Without exception all shows of the Dance Celebration were sold out and at each show 11, 300 spectators could enjoy traditional Estonian folk dances.

The tickets of the Song Celebration was also stormed - at ticket sales offices everywhere in Tallinn hundreds of people could be seen standing in the queue for hours in order to participate in the beloved concert. At the Song Celebration ground nationally minded Estonians took hours to stand in queues for tickets to see with their own eyes and hear with their own ears the popular choir singing.

The 25th Song and 18th Dance Celebration To Breathe As One was held in Tallinn from July 2nd to July 5th. The celebration was introduced by Folk Music Celebration on Tallinn Town Hall Square, on July 2nd, then followed by three concerts of Dance Celebration "The Sea" and two days long Song Celebration. The author of the idea of the Dance Celebration was Henn Tiivel and the artistic director was Ülo Luht. The artistic director of the Song Celebration was Ants Soots.

Photos, videos and news from Estonian Song and Dance Celebration:

Celebration blog with videos, news and photos: <http://tobreatheasone.wordpress.com>

Celebration YouTube channel: <http://www.youtube.com/tobreatheasone2009>

Celebration Flickr photos: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/tobreatheasone>

Celebration Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/pages/Estonian-Song-and-Dance-Celebration/101478136995>

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You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



Travel Leisure Recognizes Austin-Lehman Adventures As #1 Tour Operator in the World in Annual "Best" Awards

Travel Leisure (T L) readers have chosen Austin-Lehman Adventures (ALA) as the World's Best Tour Operator in the magazine's 2009 World's Best Awards readers' survey. The 2009 World's Best Awards survey results were announced live on NBC's Today Show and will be featured in the August issue of Travel Leisure magazine.

Billings, MT (PRWEB) July 10, 2009 -- Travel Leisure (T L) readers have chosen Austin-Lehman Adventures (ALA) as the World's Best Tour Operator in the magazine's 2009 World's Best Awards readers' survey.

Based on a perfect score of 100, ALA received an overall rating of 97.34, one of the highest ever recorded in the category in the 14 years T L has conducted its prestigious readers' survey. Their readers rated tour operators, properties and destinations on a variety of criteria. Tour operators were evaluated on the following characteristics: staff and guides, itineraries and destinations, activities, accommodations, food, and value.

"Considering that T L readers represent a strong voice amongst today's travelers, we're thrilled to be ranked by this constituency. This is truly the best of the best. To be named number one is absolutely thrilling and at the same time genuinely humbling," said Dan Austin, ALA's co-founder and Director.

"Austin-Lehman delivers an exceptional and intimate customer experience," explains co-founder Paul Lehman. "Smaller is indeed better...our guest to guide ratio is six-to-one. But most of all, it's our passion for delivering over-the-top surprise and delight that make our trips so memorable and meaningful. It could be anything from an ice cream sundae at the top of Angel's Landing in Zion National Park to a foot bath and massage after a day of biking in the Loire Valley. You name it, we've done it."

Following tradition, highlights from the 2009 World's Best Awards survey results were announced live on NBC's Today Show and will be featured in their entirety in the August issue of Travel Leisure and online at www.travelandleisure.com.

Austin-Lehman Adventures destinations include iconic national parks and backcountry regions of North, Central and South America as well as southern Africa and Europe. New trips slated for 2010 include cycling trips in South Dakota's Black Hills and Badlands, Utah's Canyonlands, Wyoming's Grand Tetons and a Greek Isles trip that features kayaking, hiking and cultural exploration.

For copies of the current catalog and to receive the 2010 catalog due out later this summer, call toll-free 1.800.575.1540. To review current trips, schedules and itineraries go to: www.austinlehman.com.

About Austin-Lehman Adventures:

Austin-Lehman Adventures, with a 35-year legacy dating back to 1974, provides "over the top" adventure vacations on four continents. ALA has built a stellar reputation on small group active travel, limited to 12 guests (18 on family departures), exceptional dining, distinctive accommodations and all-inclusive rates and services. ALA focuses solely on destinations in North, Central and South America, Europe and southern Africa. Founders



Dan Austin and Paul Lehman believe the best way to enjoy the natural beauty, culture and history of a place is to experience it as a local; close-up, at one's own pace far off the usual tourist track. In addition to its scheduled group departures, ALA also offers customized trip planning for families, solo travelers and adults-only. To back up its strong commitment to the highest levels of guest service, ALA offers all its travelers a money back guarantee, a rarity among adventure travel companies.

Austin-Lehman Adventures - Recent Kudos and Awards:

- 2009 "World's Best Tour Operator" Travel Leisure
- 2008-2009 Recipient "Best Adventure Travel Companies on Earth!" National Geographic Adventure
- 2006, 2007, 2008 Recipient of "World's 25 Best New Trips!" National Geographic Adventure
- 2008 Recipient of "15 Best Bike Trips" Bicycling Magazine
- 2007 Recipient of "50 Tours of a Lifetime!" National Geographic Traveler

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



Travel Nurse Across America Expands Into New Offices

Travel Nurse across America is thrilled to announce the completion of its newly constructed 21,000 square foot facility, located in North Little Rock, AR. [Travel Nurse Across America](#) is a national travel healthcare staffing company that places travel nurses and travel therapists on multi-week travel assignments in client healthcare facilities in all 50 states.

North Little Rock, AR (PRWEB) July 10, 2009 -- [Travel Nurse across America](#), a national travel healthcare staffing company, recently completed the relocation of its executive and administrative offices to its newly constructed 21,000 square foot office building located in Northshore Business Park in North Little Rock, Arkansas.

"This new facility was designed from the ground up with our travel nurses, travel therapists and client healthcare facilities in mind", says Gene Scott, the company's president. "The office layout will be much more functional and will facilitate better communication between departments and personnel that work together the most in serving our customers. I'm also happy for our associates as well. The proximity of our new offices to the Arkansas River Trail, a biking and pedestrian trail along the Arkansas River and the notorious Big Dam Bridge, the nation's longest pedestrian bridge, will offer our associates opportunities to maintain a healthy lifestyle around their work."

According to Mr. Scott, the travel healthcare industry has experienced a turbulent first half of the year, as most industries have experienced, as a result of the recent economic downturn. "The travel healthcare industry has been directly impacted because of the hardship placed on our client healthcare facilities - decreases in admissions, elective surgeries, access to capital and foundational giving along with increases in the number of uninsured patients and operating costs. As a result, there are less [travel nursing and therapy jobs available](#). We have worked even closer with our client healthcare facilities to fill travel nurse jobs and travel therapy jobs in a fraction of the lead times of the past. Our travel nurses and travel therapists have shown great patience and understanding as we find travel assignments that meet their needs and expectations. They know these conditions will not last for long. The long-term demand for highly qualified travel healthcare professionals is still very strong."

Even though the tough economic environment has caused consolidation within the travel healthcare industry, Mr. Scott says Travel Nurse Across America is well positioned to weather the economic storm, and even thrive in the current environment. Mr. Scott points to some recently released economic indexes that indicate the nation's economy may be on the mend. "The Economic Cycle Research Institute's weekly leading index measuring the U.S. Economy, which we follow very closely, returned to positive territory for the first time in over 22 months. Since the staffing industry in general is so closely tied to GDP, that was welcomed news for the industry, but we'll have to see if that trend continues"

For more information, visit [Nurse.tv](#).

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



The Lodge at Torrey Pines Adds San Diego Attractions to Four-Night Stay

The Summer of Fun Attraction Package includes an exclusive 3-for-1 Unlimited Pass for two adults to the world-famous San Diego Zoo, SeaWorld and the Wild Animal Park. The passes are good for 5 days, giving guests plenty of time during their 4-night stay in a Signature Room to visit the attractions at their leisure.

San Diego, California (PRWEB) July 10, 2009 -- A new summer package from [The Lodge at Torrey Pines](#) combines a luxurious 4-night stay with tickets to three of San Diego's most popular attractions.

"Since we're located adjacent to the 18th green of championship South Course, guests of The Lodge have always enjoyed guaranteed tee times at the championship golf course, but we wanted our visitors to take advantage of more of San Diego's most popular experiences," said General Manager Dan Fullen.

"The Lodge experience is focused on relaxation as well as entertainment," Fullen said. "Guests can visit the attractions at their leisure, perhaps combining a morning at the zoo with a walk to the Torrey Pines State Reserve in the afternoon."

[The Summer of Fun Attraction Package](#) starts July 1, 2009 and lasts through the end of the year. Prices start at \$395 per night for two adults.

Visitors can also choose other packages at The Lodge, including popular Golf Packages, which include 2 nights, a round of golf, complimentary club storage and cleaning, plus a full breakfast. Or guests can create their own packages for visits to local attractions and The Spa at Torrey Pines.

[The Lodge at Torrey Pines](#) is a tribute to the California Craftsman Movement and is modeled after Greene and Greene's famed Gamble and Blacker houses in Pasadena, California, two of the finest examples of early 1900s Craftsman-style architecture. The Lodge features 170 spacious guest rooms, including 8 suites, more than 13,000 square feet of meeting and banquet space, a 9,500 square-foot full-service spa and two restaurants serving contemporary California cuisine. The Lodge is adjacent to the Torrey Pines Golf Course and is within walking distance of Torrey Pines State Reserve.

The Lodge at Torrey Pines® is owned and operated by Evans Hotels, San Diego. For reservations call 888-826-0224 or for further information, visit www.lodgetorrey.com.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



Mail Scanning Company Receives Top 5-Star Rating From TopConsumerReviews.com

Earth Class Mail, an industry leader in mail scanning, receives a best-in-class 5-star rating from TopConsumerReviews.com.

Overland Park, KS (PRWEB) July 10, 2009 -- [TopConsumerReviews.com, LLC](http://www.topconsumerreviews.com) recently awarded their highest five-star rating to Earth Class Mail, an industry leader in mail scanning.

Earth Class Mail, a Seattle-based company, receives your mail on your behalf, scans the exterior of the envelopes, sends the envelope images to you in an email message, and uploads the images to your online account. You then tell Earth Class Mail which mail items to open and securely scan so you can read the contents online, and which ones to shred, recycle, archive, or physically forward to you.

"Earth Class Mail provides the most comprehensive service available today", explained Brian Dolezal, of TopConsumerReviews.com, LLC. "The flexibility and scope of their service allows anyone, from the small-volume RV'er to the growing corporate business, to use their service. This flexibility is evidenced in their long list of services and the smart way they manage their business. Earth Class Mail sets the standard in mail scanning services and they earn our highest rating."

To find out more about Earth Class Mail's mail scanning service, including reviews and comparison rankings, please visit the [Mail Scanning](http://www.topconsumerreviews.com/mail-scanning) category of TopConsumerReviews.com at <http://www.topconsumerreviews.com/mail-scanning>.

About Earth Class Mail

Founded in 2004 Earth Class Mail provides online postal-mail services to thousands of customers across 175 countries using patent-pending technology. No other mail scanning company can provide the automation, security and confidentiality assurance systems Earth Class Mail has developed.

About TopConsumerReviews.com

TopConsumerReviews.com, LLC is a leading provider of independent reviews and rankings of hundreds of consumer products and services. From [home security systems](#) and dating services, to [debt consolidation programs](#) and passport services, TopConsumerReviews.com delivers in-depth product evaluations in order to make purchasing decisions easier.

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You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).

News Image



Grand Mercure Roxy Hotel Package Helps Guests Discover the Real Singapore

Grand Mercure Roxy Hotel is offering a SGD155++ staycation getaway package for guests wanting an authentic Singapore experience

Singapore, Singapore (PRWEB) July 10, 2009 -- Grand Mercure Roxy Hotel is offering an idyllic family getaway staycation for only SGD155++, meaning it has never been easier to enjoy a genuine Singapore experience - filled with fun, entertainment, history, shopping, dining and more.

Valid until 31 July 2009, this irresistible getaway holiday package includes:

- One night's accommodation for two adults in a Superior Room with complimentary buffet breakfast
- Complimentary accommodation and breakfast for up to two children (aged up to 12 years old) sharing with parents, using existing bedding or with one extra bed
- A complimentary spa voucher for use at the hotel's spa
- Complimentary use of the hotel's gymnasium and pool with views of lush landscaping
- Delightful picnic goodies

Grand Mercure Roxy Hotel is conveniently located just 15 minutes from Changi Airport in the heart of Katong, a historical area on the East Coast of Singapore. Situated just a short walk from the hotel is Singapore's East Coast Recreation Park - its attractive beaches, jogging tracks, dining options, water sports centre and entertaining recreational facilities are popular with adults and children alike.

Located opposite the hotel, the chic Parkway Parade Shopping Centre offers a one-stop Singapore shopping experience. Additionally, the hotel is only a 10 minute taxi ride from the popular shopping hubs of Suntec City, Orchard Road and Vivo City at Harbour Front, as well as Sentosa, the Singapore Flyer and the Marina Bay area where the Formula One (F1) Grand Prix night race is held.

Grand Mercure Roxy Hotel's 558 guest rooms and suites feature the best in contemporary Asian design. All rooms feature stylish and well-appointed bathrooms that complement the room's many modern comforts.

Guests wishing to book the Grand Mercure Roxy Hotel Getaway Holiday Package and experience the ideal Singapore staycation should call (65) 6345 4922 or [email the hotel](#).

The hotel also provides a complimentary hourly shuttle bus service to and from Singapore's Changi International Airport terminals T1, T2 and T3. Guests are asked to arrange this with hotel staff when making their reservation.

More information about Grand Mercure Roxy Hotel is available at www.grandmercuroxy.com.sg.

About Grand Mercure Roxy Hotel

Strategically situated in the East Coast area and only 10 minutes from the Changi International Airport, Grand Mercure Roxy Hotel has the perfect location for discerning business and leisure travellers. Across lies Parkway



Parade Shopping Center, walking distance to the East Coast Recreation Park. The hotel has 558 guest rooms and suites, choice of four dining outlets, 10 meeting rooms, a wellness spa, outdoor swimming pool and a well-equipped fitness centre.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).

News Image





Macau.com Partners with Wine & Gourmet Asia 2009 as Official Travel Company

Macau.com has been appointed official travel company for Wine & Gourmet Asia 2009 for the second consecutive year. Wine & Gourmet Asia 2009 will be held for its third time from October 22-24, 2009 at The Venetian® Macao-Resort-Hotel.

Macau (PRWEB) July 10, 2009 -- Macau.com, the leading online destination marketing and travel company in Macau, has been appointed official travel company for Wine & Gourmet Asia 2009 for the second consecutive year.

As one of the largest international trade events dedicated to fine wine, gourmet and hospitality industry in Macau as well as the Asia Pacific region, Wine & Gourmet Asia 2009 will be held for the third time from October 22-24, 2009. The event, which will take place at The Venetian® Macao-Resort-Hotel, is an ideal networking platform for the region's hospitality industry leaders as well as gourmands and wine enthusiasts.

Last year's Wine & Gourmet Asia 2008 expo enticed over 140 exhibitors and 7000 visitors from some 16 countries and regions participating. Top chefs, sommeliers and winemakers were present to showcase the cuisine and beverages from their respective regions. This unique concept of an all-inclusive trade event presented more networking and showcasing opportunities for exhibitors to visitors.

As Wine & Gourmet Asia's official travel partner, Macau.com is offering participants and exhibitors exclusive travel deals for [hotels in Macau](#), [hotels in Hong Kong](#), [hotels in Shenzhen](#), [hotels in Zhuhai](#) and [hotels in Guangzhou](#) at special rates. A customized Wine & Gourmet Asia microsite on Macau.com will also provide comprehensive travel and event information, along with exclusive eNewsletters containing the latest hot deals for leisure activities and F&B outlets in Macau.

"We are delighted to partner with Wine & Gourmet Asia again this year; it is a strong testament to our high and consistent level of service quality." says Christina Siaw, Macau.com's CEO. She adds: "We will continue to organize the best deals on accommodation in Macau for all participants, along with a comprehensive view of Macau as a vibrant city with world-class entertainment, as well as more [Hong Kong hotels](#) and travel choices in Hong Kong and Southern China for overseas visitors".

Michael Dreyer, Asia Pacific Vice President of Koelnmesse - the organizer of Wine & Gourmet Asia comments, "Wine & Gourmet Asia is the only dedicated international trade fair for the high-end food, beverage and hospitality industry in Asia. We are very conscientious of the partners we work with to provide a high quality experience on all aspects for our participants. Macau.com is a choice partner for travel and accommodation; we are pleased to work together again."

About Macau.com

Macau.com is the premier web portal and online travel agency for hotel accommodation, show tickets and



packaged tour products for Macau, Hong Kong and Southern China. With a secure and technologically advanced online booking engine, Macau.com's services are targeted at Macau-bound travelers coming from Mainland China, Hong Kong and high growth-tourist areas including Southeast Asia, Taiwan, Australia and North Asian markets such as Japan and Korea.

About Koelnmesse Pte Ltd. Singapore

Headquartered in the city of Cologne, Germany, Koelnmesse organizes over 70 successful international trade fairs a year, with 44,600 exhibitors from 127 countries and visited by around 2.5 million visitors from 218 countries. Koelnmesse is the organizer of the world's largest food trade fair - ANUGA which is held in Cologne every 2 years. Since 2002, the company has ventured into Asia, organizing other leading food shows in Asia which are recognized as international trade platforms for the global food market including THAIFEX - World of food ASIA and Sweets China.

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You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).

News Image



Refresh the Senses in bmi's New International Lounge, bmi Number One Heathrow

Iconic perfumer Miller Harris to offer luxurious range of products in bmi Number One Heathrow.

London (PRWEB) July 10, 2009 -- bmi, the number one airline out of London Heathrow's Terminal 1, has announced a collaboration with luxury British perfumer, Miller Harris, for its new international lounge, [bmi Number One Heathrow](#). The distinct and iconic style of the Miller Harris range adds to the sophisticated and quintessentially British environment of the lounge and offers a touch of luxury for customers to refresh before or between flights.

Along with Miller Harris' range of Citron citron hand wash and moisturisers, customers taking advantage of the showers in the lounge can enjoy the vibrant Citron citron range of shower gel, body lotion, shampoo and conditioner. Combining a refreshing spritz of Sicilian lemon, Spanish orange and Jamaican lime with cool mint, basil and a complex base of green moss, Moroccan cedar and cardamom, Citron Citron embodies all the bright, clean freshness of the essence of citrus to awaken the senses, perfect for pre-flight rejuvenation.

To celebrate the collaboration, for one week from 1 July 2009 bmi customers will also receive complimentary sample vials of Miller Harris fragrances as they relax in the lounge.

Miller Harris is one of a series of partnerships bmi has created for the opening of the lounge that showcases Britain's finest. Mark Hix, renowned and award-winning champion of British food is exclusively featuring his new line of salad dressings and ice creams on bmi's midhaul Business Class menus and in [bmi Number One Heathrow](#).

The styling and design throughout the lounge also emphasises Britain's best, both traditional and contemporary. Chairs are by Tom Dixon - an innovative UK designer, while there are original works of art by an award-winning graduate of the Royal Academy of Art, Phil Shaw. Materials and colours are rich and sensual - reinforcing the indulgent, yet welcoming atmosphere.

Katherine Gershon, Sales and Marketing Director, bmi said:

"We are delighted to announce bmi's partnership with the iconic British perfumer Miller Harris. The beautiful product range provides an additional comfort for our customers whilst perfectly complementing the style and atmosphere of bmi Number One Heathrow. We expect the products will be very popular with our customers looking to revive and refresh while waiting for their flight."

bmi Number One Heathrow is open to bmi [Business Class](#) customers, Gold and Silver Diamond Club members and Star Alliance Gold members travelling to bmi [international destinations](#). Located above Gate 5 in Terminal 1, bmi Number One Heathrow has a unique layout. It does not feature a reception desk - instead customers are welcomed inside by members of the Lounge Team. The space is divided into informal zones that cater to the varying needs of the international traveller - the emphasis being on providing a sense of comfort and familiarity.

The new international lounge is the latest in a series of innovations from bmi. The airline recently launched its new [Chauffeur Drive](#) and Premium Check-in area at London Heathrow's Terminal 1 to provide a fast and hassle free check-in service for [Business Class](#) and Premium Economy customers as well as bmi Diamond Club Gold and Silver card holders.

bmi is the only airline at London Heathrow to offer Business Class customers a 30 minute check-in promise, enabling them to arrive at check-in as little as 30 minutes before their flight departs with the guarantee that they will make their flight. [Premium Economy](#) customers can also experience a more personal service when using the Premium Check-in area with bmi staff collecting luggage and travel documents from customers on arrival so that they can complete the check in formalities whilst they sit back and relax.

All bmi flights operate from London Heathrow Terminal 1 - the home of bmi. In addition to benefits including online check-in, travellers will also be able to take advantage of Diamond Club, the UK's most generous frequent flyer programme, and bmi's Company Rewards programme for SMEs (small and medium enterprises). Diamond Club destinations miles can be spent on flights with Star Alliance member airlines, hotel accommodation and on a range of gifts and treats.

bmi is the second largest airline at London Heathrow, one of the world's leading international hub airports. Across its mainline route network bmi operates to Aberdeen; Addis Ababa; Aleppo; Almaty; Amman; Amsterdam; Baku; Beirut; Belfast City; Bishkek; Brussels; Cairo; Damascus; Dammam; Dublin; Edinburgh; Freetown; Glasgow; Hanover; Jeddah; Khartoum; Kiev; London Heathrow; Manchester; Moscow Domodedovo; Palma Mallorca; Riyadh; Tbilisi; Tehran; Tel Aviv; Venice; Yerevan.

bmi regional operates to Aberdeen; Birmingham; Brussels; Cologne; Copenhagen; East Midlands; Edinburgh; Esbjerg; Glasgow; Groningen; Leeds Bradford; Lyon; Manchester; Norwich; Zurich.

bmi is a member of Star Alliance, established in 1997 as the first truly global airline alliance to offer customers worldwide reach and a smooth travel experience. Star Alliance received the Air Transport World Market Leadership Award in 2008 and was voted Best Airline Alliance by Business Traveller Magazine in 2003, 2006, 2007 and 2008 and by Skytrax in 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009. The members are Air Canada, Air China, Air New Zealand, ANA, Asiana Airlines, Austrian, bmi, EGYPTAIR, LOT Polish Airlines, Lufthansa, Scandinavian Airlines, Shanghai Airlines, Singapore Airlines, South African Airways, Spanair, SWISS, TAP Portugal, Turkish Airlines, THAI, United and US Airways. Regional member carriers Adria Airways (Slovenia), Blue1 (Finland) and Croatia Airlines enhance the global network. Aegean Airlines, Air India, Brussels Airlines, Continental Airlines and TAM have been announced as future members. Overall, the Star Alliance network offers 17,000 daily flights to 916 destinations in 160 countries.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



Branson Air Travelers Get New Air Travel Options

Exciting new low airfare options to Branson create even more options for travelers to this budget friendly destination.

(Vocus) July 10, 2009 -- The opening of the new Branson Airport and new Midfield Terminal at the Springfield-Branson National Airport isn't the only new feature air travelers to Branson will be experiencing. According to Sharon Budnick, Manager of the Branson Travel Agency and twenty year veteran of the [Branson travel industry](#), the real benefit to Branson's air travelers will be something they have never experienced before, low cost airfares to and from Branson.

Sharon said during her career serving the needs of air travelers to Branson, the airfares to Branson's closest airport, the Springfield-Branson National Airport, were extremely high. "In fact," she said, "they were so high that people actually flew in and out of airports as far away as Tulsa, St. Louis and Kansas City rather than pay Springfield's higher fares."

She said that currently the Branson air traveler has never had the low fare choices and options they now have available. Sharon stated that low airfares for travel serving the Branson area are available from Atlanta, Dallas, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, Phoenix, Orlando, Tampa and many other destinations.

"The combination of the new airport opening, the new terminal in Springfield, lower airfare prices and budget-friendly Branson entertainment has created quite the buzz for [Branson vacations](#)," stated Sharon. Sharon says it is always smart to comparative shop for the lowest fares and always be prepared for possible delays and missed connections.

"Whatever option air travelers exercise when flying to Branson, whether it is through the Branson Airport or the Springfield-Branson National Airport," she said, "they will be flying into a beautiful and functional new facility that is convenient to Branson." The new \$150 million plus Branson Airport opened within two weeks of the Springfield-Branson National Airport opening its new \$117 Midfield Terminal in May of this year.

Sharon and Branson Travel Agency provide support to its parent company, Branson Tourism Center and can be reached at 417-332-1990 or through its website www.BransonTravelAgency.com. Branson Tourism Center is one of Branson's largest providers of Branson travel services and employs about 100 people. It enjoys an accredited status and A+ Rating from the Better Business Bureau. Among other organizations, it is a member of the Branson Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitors Bureau, Table Rock Lake Chamber, Hollister Chamber, American Society of Travel Agents, American Bus Association, and the Branson Lodging Association. Branson Tourism Center may be reached by calling 1-800-978-1999 or through its website www.BransonTourismCenter.com

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News Image





Riviera Maya's Hotel Esencia Attracts Guests with Price-Matching Offer

Hotel Esencia is doing its part to lure travelers back to Mexico by offering to match any competitors' room rate or promotional offer.

Playa Xpu-ha, Mexico (Vocus) July 9, 2009 -- Now that the media fervor over the perils of traveling to Mexico is widely accepted as over-blown, visitors can go back to more "important" concerns – like which snorkel excursion is best, which Mayan ruins are the most impressive, and whether a pina colada or margarita would go better with dinner.

The [Hotel Esencia in the heart of the Riviera Maya](#) is doing its part to lure travelers back to Mexico by offering to match any competitors' room rate or promotional offer. The hotel is located on a 50-acre waterfront estate near the resort town of Playa del Carmen and is recognized as one of the area's most exclusive boutique hotels. The property was originally built as the private retreat for an Italian duchess and now welcomes guests with luxury guestrooms, an awe-inspiring beachfront, two swimming pools, an organic healing day spa and a gourmet restaurant.

"We want travelers to feel comfortable coming to Mexico and we also want them to be confident that they're getting the [best deal possible](#)," said Philip Vidal, Esencia's general manager. "

Esencia's "Return to Mexico" promotion is valid from July 5 to December 20, 2009, and the terms are simple. The hotel will match any published room rate, even promotional rates, from any other 5-star hotel anywhere in Mexico or the Caribbean (does not apply to all-inclusive hotels).

"It's all about establishing trust and proving our value," Vidal added. "We have a [high percentage of repeat guests](#) and we know that once someone experience life at Esencia, they'll be back again. That's why we're able to take this gamble."

Guest rooms at the Esencia feature 12-foot ceilings, large private terraces, plunge pools, flat-screen TVs, iPod sound systems, marble bathrooms, Molton Brown bath amenities and Internet access. Twenty-four hour room service and nightly turndown are also offered. The on-site [Sal y Fuego](#) restaurant serves the finest seafood, meats and fresh salads, plus organic and exotic ingredients found nowhere else in the world.

The Esencia gives guests direct access to one of the world's great travel destinations. Within a short distance from the estate, visitors can explore ancient Mayan ruins, snorkel the barrier reef, swim in a freshwater lagoon, sail into the sunset, ride horses along the beach, fish for a prize catch or play golf on a PGA championship course. Guests can dine on fresh lobster with sand between their toes, sip fine wine on a breezy veranda and read for hours in a swaying hammock.

For a bit more relaxation, guests head to the hotel's [Aroma Spa](#), which features an array of face and body treatments incorporating indigenous fruits, plants and herbs, many of which are grown in the hotel's own herb



garden. There are five treatment rooms, four Jacuzzis and two Mayan-style steam rooms. Featured treatments include massage, herbal saunas and facials – all performed with traditional organic methods.

This type of price-matching promotion is exceptionally rare in the luxury travel industry and Esencia's offer is an excellent opportunity for travelers to experience high-end travel for a fraction of the usual cost.

For more information or to claim a "Return to Mexico" room rate, call the hotel's reservation line at 1-877-528-3490. For a glimpse of the good life at Esencia, visit www.hotelesencia.com.

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News Image





Tauck Adds Features, Enhances Value With Its 2010 'Exotics' Itineraries

2010 Journeys To Africa, Asia, Latin America And South Pacific Announced

Norwalk, CT (PRWEB) July 10, 2009 -- [Tauck World Discovery](#) has announced the details of its 2010 "Exotics" portfolio, the company's collection of 21 all-inclusive guided journeys in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the South Pacific. For the coming year, which also marks the company's 85th anniversary, Tauck has added a number of engaging new features to the Exotics journeys while simultaneously trimming the price of many itineraries.

"The silver lining to this year's economic landscape is that our suppliers have been more eager to work with us and secure our business, and the dollar has also regained some of its strength," said Tauck CEO Dan Mahar. "That means we're able to improve the pricing on many of our Exotics trips without impacting the quality of the guest experience. To the contrary, we've actually been able to enhance the guest experience by adding a host of interesting and engaging new features."

Mahar cited the company's "[China, the Yangtze River & Hong Kong](#)" itinerary as an example. Guests on the 2010 itinerary will join the Director of Beijing's Cultural Heritage Protection Center for a visit to a "hutong," a neighborhood community and Beijing cultural tradition whose numbers are being threatened by development. While viewing the famous Terra Cotta Warriors in Xi'an, Tauck guests will learn about the statues' history and their preservation directly from the museum's Conservation Director. In Shanghai, Tauck travelers will receive an introduction to the city from the vantage of the VIP viewing terrace at the city's gleaming five-story Urban Planning Center. Later, guests will travel aboard the world's fastest train when they ride the 268-mph Maglev.

"Even with all of those added features, we've been able to lower the high-season price of our [China Travel](#) program by \$300 per person," said Mahar. "Our Worldwide Operations team has done an incredible job. It's easy to lower prices by stripping away trip components, and you can add new elements if you don't mind higher costs. But adding interesting and authentic itinerary components while also improving prices is a true accomplishment."

A total of 14 journeys in Tauck's [Exotics](#) collection will carry a lower price in 2010, with savings ranging from \$200 to \$1,600, and an average savings of \$350 per person, double-occupancy. An additional five itineraries will be priced the same for 2010.

Tauck's [Exotics](#) portfolio is highlighted in a new 92-page full-color brochure that is being mailed to agents and consumers. For more information, please visit your local travel professional, contact Tauck at 1 800 468 2825, or go to <http://tauck.com/>.

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You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



InventHelp® Introduces a Uniquely-Shaped Posture Pillow to Provide Support During Sleep

InventHelp® introduces the "SleepPosture™ Pillow," a uniquely-shaped pillow which supports the back and neck and allows people to sleep on their sides comfortably. The SleepPosture™ Pillow is available for purchase on www.inventhelpstore.com, for \$59.95, plus shipping & handling.

Pittsburgh, PA (PRWEB) July 10, 2009 -- InventHelp® introduces the "SleepPosture™ Pillow," a uniquely-shaped pillow which supports the back and neck and allows people to sleep on their sides comfortably.

With summer in full swing, many families are taking off on long road trips or vacations. Sleeping in the car during a long car ride is almost essential to pass the time. Sometimes, though, sleeping in an upright position with the head and neck resting oddly against the window or car door doesn't make for a very comfortable snooze, not to mention the pain and stiffness one feels when they wake up. As featured on QVC, The SleepPosture™ Pillow is a body pillow that reduces strain on the spine, as well as provides support for the neck, the upper back and the lower back. Because of this support, a person wakes up feeling more rested and with more energy. The SleepPosture™ Pillow's unique design prevents a person from rolling and twisting the spine in two different directions. In addition to long trips in the car, the product is ideal for expectant mothers, people who travel frequently and those who have been diagnosed with congestive heart failure and must sleep upright.

The SleepPosture™ Pillow resembles the shape of a question mark. The long section of the pillow is placed either behind or in front of the person, whichever is more comfortable. The product includes a unique "ear well" to prevent painful ear folding during sleep, and elevates the chin to provide better air flow and a more natural curve to the neck. For a more secure fit, a person should roll slightly forward while on their side, push down on the top of the pillow, and then roll back. Suggested Retail Price: \$59.95, plus shipping and handling.

InventHelp®, America's leading inventor service company is seeking marketers and distributors in the household and therapeutic health industries. SleepPosture™ Pillows are available on www.inventhelpstore.com, a website of innovative new products by InventHelp's licensing and product marketing partner Intromark Incorporated. For more information, or for ordering, contact us at 217 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222; call (800) 851-6030 or (412) 288-1368; fax (412) 338-0497.

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You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).

Best Western Opens its Doors to Rich Bitches and Hound Dogs

Best Western gives pampered pooches their own hotel wing.

Manchester, UK (PRWEB) July 10, 2009 -- Best Western Hotels, Britain's biggest independent hotel group, has gone to the dogs - and it couldn't be happier about it.

Tails are wagging with glee at Best Western Hotels (<http://www.bestwestern.co.uk/>) across the UK as the group opens its doors with a fanfare of new features being introduced for man's best friend in order to cope with the 150% increase in dog bookings seen over the past year.

Dogs at several hotels now have their own room service - tentatively titled 'Groom' Service - and even enjoy luxury fine dining from their own in-house canine-menu, including delicious items like specially sourced marrow bone and select cuts of free range chicken and rump steak.

Best Western hotels have long been popular with dog owners and their pampered pooches but in the last 12 months the group has seen a huge increase in the number of dog owners seeking suitable accommodation for themselves and their loyal four-legged friends. As a result several hotels within the group, which has won awards for its Pet Friendliness, devised a number of canine-centric new features designed to make guest pooches feel even more pampered.

One of these is the inclusion of special dog-beds, available on request. Owners can now book a twin room with a bed for themselves and a custom doggy-divan for their canine companion. Doggie treats on the pillow and walks specially devised for those with short, medium and long legs are another special feature at the Best Western Monkbar hotel (<http://www.bestwestern.co.uk/Hotels/Best-Western-Monkbar-Hotel-83729/Hotel-Info/Default.aspx>) in York.

Pet friendly hotels (<http://www.bestwestern.co.uk/Find-a-Hotel/PetFriendlyHotels.aspx>), are dedicating rooms specifically for guests with dogs and other rooms which are never used to accommodate pets, plus investing in the latest vacuum cleaners designed specifically to cope with pet hairs. For example, one Leeds hotel (<http://www.bestwestern.co.uk/towns/leeds-52394.aspx>), the Best Western Dower House, has four rooms with direct access to the hotel gardens.

June Nelsey, general manager of the Best Western Monkbar Hotel, said: "Many people cherish their pets as part of the family, as dog owners ourselves we understand that people don't like to leave their pets at home and want their pet to have as good experience as they do while away.

"We even offer our seven year old Labrador to guests who miss their own pet and want a dog to walk. He has even had dog chews sent from Australia and doggie gifts from America to say thanks for a great holiday."

Clarissa Baldwin, Chief Executive of Dogs Trust (<http://www.dogstrust.org.uk/>), said: "Dogs love a change of scenery just like anyone else so we are very pleased that dog-owners are increasingly choosing to holiday with their canine chums. Boarding kennels are not necessarily ideal for every pet and some, like the very old, very



timid, or animals that have spent time in a Rehoming Centre may find it a stressful experience and, where possible, would be far happier joining you on your break."

Best Western spokesman, Chris Webb, added: "There's been a huge uptake of rooms by dog owners and their pets in the last 12 months. In order to accommodate this increase we are investing in lots of new features to make sure our guests, and their four-legged best friends, are well catered for. We want to make sure that the pooches tails are wagging as much at our hotels as they do at home."

About Best Western Great Britain

Best Western Great Britain is part of Best Western International, the world's largest hotel chain. Best Western currently has over 280 individual hotels in the UK. Each one is independently owned and managed, while being committed to the company's common standards of quality, service and value.

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JW Marriott Hotel Washington DC Celebrates 25 Years & Stays Modern with \$40 Million Renovation

JW Marriott Hotel Washington, DC, a modern DC hotel on Pennsylvania Avenue, is celebrating 25 years of service with the completion of a \$40 million renovation to its guestrooms, suites and lobby.

Washington, DC (PRWEB) July 10, 2009 -- The JW Marriott Hotel Washington, DC, celebrating 25 years, recently completed the last phase of a \$40 million renovation to all 772 guest rooms and suites, meeting space and the atrium lobby. The high-tech, high-style renovation offers the latest innovations and a fresh, modern design featuring an understated luxury and elegance. Situated on Pennsylvania Avenue in the heart of downtown Washington, DC, the 15-story luxury hotel is owned by Host Hotels & Resorts and is managed by Marriott International, Inc.

"We're very excited about the new look and feel of our guestrooms, suites and lobby," said Scott Nadeau, general manager. "We know our guests want authentically crafted comfort, purposeful luxury and style, but they also want a space they can tailor to their needs, whether it's working, relaxing, or dining. We have delivered that and more."

All guestrooms and suites at this modern hotel in Washington DC feature a clean and crisp look and feature Marriott's new, more luxurious bedding with plusher mattresses, softer sheets and more pillows. All rooms come equipped with a 37-inch high-def LG® plasma screen television and a plug-in technology panel that provides guests with multi-tasking abilities through versatile multimedia usage.

The redesigned Presidential and Vice-Presidential suites at this renovated downtown DC hotel have access to the 7,000 square foot terrace overlooking Pennsylvania Avenue, boasting views of the Capitol Building and the Washington Monument. The suites are over 1,700 square feet and feature 50-inch HD LG® televisions and one touch lighting controls. The newly renovated Presidential suites have conference sized tables with multi-media plug-in capabilities. The largest suite features a custom spa shower and tub featuring Kohler's DTV® electronic interface with sound and ambient lighting effects.

The renovated hotel's atrium lobby has been updated with a sophisticated urban look that blends informal elegance with modern technology. The contemporary color tones, cherry wood paneling and leather wrapped columns throughout the lobby create an ambience that is both dynamic and comfortable. Semi-private seating areas allow guests to socialize, work and play. With Wi-Fi through out the hotel, guests can work on their personal laptops or kick up their feet on oversized chairs and relax in front the media walls with flat screen high-def televisions.

The JW Marriott Washington, DC, the first JW Marriott branded hotel, is a Pennsylvania Avenue hotel within walking distance from the White House, National Mall, Smithsonian, Newseum, and many other national landmarks, as well as a myriad of shopping and dining experiences. One of the country's premiere meeting destinations, this renovated hotel in Washington DC features over 37,000 square feet of meeting space, including the 14,000-square-foot Grand Ballroom, and 22 additional meeting rooms.



The JW Marriott Hotel Washington, DC opened in 1984 as a tribute to J. Willard Marriott, the founder of Marriott Corporation, predecessor to Marriott International. Today, JW Marriott Hotels & Resorts is a global brand with 43 hotels and resorts located in 20 countries. For more information or to make reservations, contact your travel professional, call the hotel directly at (202) 393-2000, or visit www.jwmarriottdc.com.

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You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



New Panorama Software Service Enables Photographers to Stitch their Images into Seamless Montages Via Email

Photographs can now be emailed and instantly turned into beautiful, lasting panoramic images with DualAlign LLC's breakthrough cloud computing panorama software service, i2k Quickage Mobile. This stitching software service allows users to easily combine multiple images from any mobile phone or digital camera into a seamless, professional looking photograph just by emailing the images to quickage-mobile@dualalign.com.

Clifton Park, NY (PRWEB) July 7, 2009 -- Photographers, tourists and anyone else looking to quickly stitch multiple images from any camera phone or digital camera into a seamless photograph can now do so with DualAlign LLC's breakthrough cloud computing panorama software service, [i2k Quickage Mobile](#). With i2k Quickage Mobile, anyone with access to email and a camera can capture, create and preserve beautiful composite images.

"All users have to do is email the images they want stitched to [quickage-mobile \(at\) dualalign.com](mailto:quickage-mobile@duaalalign.com). That's it. Within a few minutes users will receive back an email with an attached low-resolution version of the panorama and a link to a high-resolution version. I did this with my iPhone and was blown away with the results," says Remy Arteaga, CEO of DualAlign LLC.

i2k Quickage Mobile is the first and only cloud computing panorama software service. The photo stitching service is powered by [i2k Quickage](#), the most advanced photo stitching software on the market. i2k Quickage is so reliable that it has been used by NASA to stitch images of the space shuttle into one montage for analysis. In addition, independent government testing found the incredible technology powering Quickage to be the best of its kind in the world. This new form of imaging intelligence is certain to change the way people take pictures.

"We felt the technology behind [i2k Quickage](#) was so reliable and so robust that we could deliver a panorama service through email. This is one of the first products in our industry for the average consumer," says Dr. Charles Stewart, CSO of DualAlign LLC.

DualAlign LLC's breakthrough service allows users to capture images of weddings, spectacular scenery, property for sale and unexpected visual moments in day-to-day life, then email those images and instantly get back stunning montages and panoramas. It frees users from the frustrations of the fixed field of view of mobile phone cameras, often the only camera handy when you want to capture that special moment.

"By taking the photo stitching processing out of the computer or mobile device, we've liberated the process of creating montages and panoramas. As a tourist you can instantly create panoramas of the Taj Majal in India or the Coliseum in Italy with your iPhone, Blackberry or Nokia phone. As a photographer you can instantly create panoramas at an event, regardless of your computer set up," says Remy Arteaga, CEO of DualAlign LLC.

DualAlign plans on introducing a social media plug-in to their service in August that will allow users to



automatically share i2k Quickage Mobile panoramas with all of their social media sites, like Facebook and Flickr.

The lead computer vision scientists behind i2k Quickage, Dr. Charles Stewart and Dr. Gary Yang, are recognized leaders in their fields, further evidence of the world class service users can expect from the program's use and resultant panoramic photographs.

i2k Quickage is so simple to use that it can be employed anywhere in any situation at any time.

For more information about i2k Quickage, the new panorama software from DualAlign LLC, visit <http://www.i2align.com>.

To learn more or to schedule an interview with Remy Arteaga, please call 877-595-7181 or e-mail info (at) dualalign (dot) com.

About DualAlign LLC

DualAlign LLC is a technology-based software start up that transforms image registration and recognition technology into software solutions that enhance digital imaging systems. Learn more about DualAlign LLC at <http://www.dualalign.com>.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



Nationwide Social Media Adventure Revolutionizing the Way People See Social Media

For many, the idea of a cross continent road trip makes us cringe, but that's not the case for Joseph Ranseth, a 30-year-old entrepreneur and social media 'evangelist'. He's out to disprove the notion that technology distances us as a culture, and he's traveling the distance to prove it. Joseph's doing something that's never been done before in the Social Media industry, he's taking his mission on the road! His project is based on a unique journey - a summer-long road trip - to achieve an up-close and personal case study on the impact of Social Media to transform our world.

Salt Lake City, UT (PRWEB) July 9, 2009 -- For many, the idea of a cross continent road trip makes us cringe, but that's not the case for Joseph Ranseth, a 30-year-old entrepreneur and social media 'evangelist'. He's out to disprove the notion that technology distances us as a culture, and he's traveling the distance to prove it.

Just this past April 2009, Joseph set out on a road trip from Phoenix to Toronto. Using his cell phone to connect with 1,000's through Facebook & Twitter, Joseph encouraged his "friends" to connect with him along the way. He even went so far as to post his cell phone number to the two social media sites.

Through that simple outreach, Joseph was flooded with text messages from all over the world... forming connections on every continent! The response was so overwhelming - and so confirming of his conviction that social media has the power to transform our world - that he has set out on a North American Social Media Adventure. By holding events along the way and preaching his message of the power of Social Media, he hopes to show people how to transform their businesses as well as their personal relationships.

Watch for this social media 'evangelist' and his shiny yellow car as he hits a city near you! Cities currently on his itinerary are: Salt Lake City, Denver, Phoenix, Houston, Atlanta, Miami, Raleigh, NYC, Washington D.C., Los Angeles, Chicago, and St. Louis.

"Many have said that social media is changing the way that we do business... but they're wrong," said Joseph in a recent interview. "Social media it is the expression of how our approach to business and relationships has evolved."

He goes on to preach, "Many have argued that technology distances us, but I am optimistic and extremely confident that the evolution of Web 2.0 is leading us toward creating genuine, authentic and in-person relationships. In fact, I know it." Joseph's mission is to open people's eyes to how they can use social media to transform their business & personal lives.

Joseph is chronicling his adventure online and encourages the world to join him on his journey, which can be discovered at SocialMediaAdventure.com. The site, which will evolve as the trip progresses, will include daily blog and video posts, a map of Joseph's trip for fans to follow him, and a number of ways the world can



participate in the adventure.

Joseph Ranseth is a pioneer in the Internet and social media marketing fields. He founded the vine multimedia inc, a highly successful New Media Marketing Agency based in Winnipeg, Canada, in 2003 and travels the globe training large and small groups on techniques to use social media effectively. He was most recently featured on CBS Backstage Live.

For more information on Joseph Ranseth visit JosephRanseth.com. For more information on the Social Media Adventure go to SocialMediaAdventure.com.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



The Beacon Hotel in South Beach Provides a 25% Discount to Facebook Users

The Beacon Hotel proudly announces the launch of the Facebook Fan Special Offer which provides Facebook Users with a 25% discount on their entire stay bookable through hotel's web site. The Beacon Hotel is the first amongst [South Beach Hotels](#) to launch this type of aggressive offer aimed at increasing the reach of their social media community.

(Vocus) July 8, 2009 -- The Beacon Hotel proudly announces the launch of the Facebook Fan Special Offer which provides Facebook users with a 25% discount on their entire stay bookable through hotel's web site. The Beacon Hotel is the first amongst [South Beach Hotels](#) to launch this type of aggressive offer aimed at increasing the reach of their social media community. The Facebook Fan Special Offer is available to Facebook users who are registered Facebook Fans of the Beacon Hotel. The hotel currently has 1,178 Facebook fans and with this initiative hopes to reach the goal of 5,000 by the end of the year. "Before this campaign began we had about 700 fans and in less than three weeks we have almost doubled that total" explains Fritz Fandiño the Director of Sales & Marketing.

At times when hotels are searching for ways to increase their business the Beacon Hotel has turned to social media not only as the way of the future but also the present. "Facebook provides us with a unique opportunity to speak with our customers on a daily basis and establish a personal relationship. Social media and Facebook have opened new ways for businesses to communicate with their customers and our goal is to be the leaders amongst [South Beach Hotels](#) in using these channels" - explains Elvis Taylor the General Manager.

Facebook users who become fans of the Beacon Hotel obtain a 25% discount on their bookings and are automatically entered to participate in monthly raffles with a chance to win I-tunes cards and complimentary weekend stays amongst other items. The Beacon management is committed to expanding the reach of their social media channels and are currently working on developing a Facebook application which they will unveil soon.

About the Beacon Hotel South Beach:

Located at 720 Ocean Drive in the heart of South Beach the Beacon Hotel was built in 1936 and was designed with the flare and magnificence of the Art Deco era. The hotel underwent renovation from 2004 – 2006 and today it features 73 rooms and 2 VIP Suites which preserve the original Art Deco marble floors and have been beautifully decorated with modern chic décor. The Beacon Hotel is one of the leading [Miami Beach Hotels](#) in providing five diamonds service. The hotel offers luxury amenities including presidential beds by Serta, 320-thread count linen by Mascioni, turn-down service, flat-panel LCD TVs, IP phones, and much more. Ideally located at 720 Ocean Drive in the heart of the Art Deco district the Beacon is just steps away from all of the best entertainment that South Beach has to offer.

The Beacon Hotel's ambiance can be described as beach loving, festive, sophisticated, successful, and trendy. The hotel's management has focused its efforts in creating the ideal combination of relaxation, pampering, and enjoyment for its guests. The Beacon Hotel staff takes great pride in their commitment to providing a five diamonds service experience.



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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



NYC & Company and Speaker Quinn Rally with City's Tourism Industry to Invite Visitors and New Yorkers to NYC This Summer

On heels of successful July 4th weekend, more than 50 members of NYC's tourism community, city's marketing and tourism organization invite visitors to the world's second home. New programs and offers target visitors and residents to boost summer travel across the five boroughs as NYC continues to weather the economic storm.

New York, NY (PRWEB) July 9, 2009 -- Against the backdrop of the recently reopened Statue of Liberty crown, NYC & Company CEO George Fertitta and City Council Speaker Christine Quinn surrounded by more than 50 members of the City's hospitality industry at the Battery in Lower Manhattan today rallied to celebrate summer 2009. On the heels of a hugely successful July 4th weekend--complete with a historic fireworks celebration held along the Hudson to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's exploration of the river--New York City continued to invite visitors from around the world to take advantage of events and attractions across the five boroughs. Residents were also encouraged to explore the many diverse neighborhoods of the City as an affordable solution to rising vacation and travel costs. To help promote all New York City has to offer to residents and visitors, NYC & Company has created and relaunched several campaigns and promotions that will offer consumers deals on hotels, dining, shopping, arts and entertainment and much more.

"We are excited to be celebrating summer 2009 with such enthusiasm and optimism," said George Fertitta, the CEO of [NYC & Company](#). "The energy and vibrancy of New York City was on full display this July 4th weekend, and we are confident that tourism will remain one of our strongest and most reliable industries in 2009 and beyond. On behalf of NYC & Company and all our members and partners, I would personally like to welcome and invite everyone this summer to come see all that the world's second home has to offer."

"The importance of tourism to our city's economy can not be understated, especially given the current economic situation," said City Council Speaker Christine Quinn. "Much like the recent Rainbow Pilgrimage and the ongoing 9 in '09 campaign, I am thrilled to help launch these new promotions that will encourage people from around the world to visit our wonderful city. Our local businesses thrive through the support of tourist spending and the council is ready to do all we can to make sure visitors continue to enjoy the warmth, diversity and excitement of New York City."

NYC & Company continues to weather the economic storm, as recent visitor projections approach 2007 numbers--then a record-breaking year--and, on the whole, the City finds itself above national averages across several verticals. More than 11.3 million visitors are forecast to visit this summer, only a small decline from 2008, and New York City continues to maintain its position as the number-one US destination for overseas travelers. In addition, hotel occupancy continues to stay on par with 2008 levels, standing at 83.3% for the week ending June 27, compared with the national average of 65.4%. In fact, the only cities whose occupancy levels approach NYC's are San Francisco (80.8%), Washington DC (80.6%) and Honolulu/Oahu (76.1%).

The numbers are very encouraging--with positive growth in overseas visitation, occupancy rates and even



record-breaking numbers on Broadway. And recent reports suggest that the industry has bottomed out nationwide and is gradually beginning to bounce back," said Fertitta. "While we may not exceed last year's record-breaking numbers, we still expect a strong year and continue on pace to meet our goal of 50 million visitors annually by 2015. The fact is the City remains an extremely attractive and top-of-mind travel destination, and we are doing our best to ensure it stays that way."

At today's event, several programs and promotions designed to encourage travel and local activity on the part of both residents and visitors were highlighted. The NYC: The Real Deal program--announced in April--added more than 115 special offers and incentives in addition to 50 new family hotel savings packages as part of the new NYC: The Real Deal Family initiative. Also, through a new NYC: The Real Deal Summer Fridays promotion, created in partnership with American Express,[®] Cardmembers receive an additional 10% off when they use their registered American Express Cards on Fridays through September 13. Cardmembers should visit nycgo.com/summerfridays to take advantage of more than 50 special offers and to register their American Express Cards. There are no coupons to clip or codes to remember--the savings will be directly credited to the Cardmember's American Express account. To promote the new program, NYC & Company will launch radio, digital and outdoor ads. The total value of the campaign is \$2.2 million.

"We're pleased to be partnering with NYC & Company on the new NYC: The Real Deal Summer Fridays program, an initiative that highlights New York City's exceptional value and unique experiences this summer," said Lisa Skiptunis, vice president, client management, American Express Merchant Services. "We are especially excited that Cardmembers who register their American Express Card for this promotion will be able to take advantage of savings all over the City without the hassle of remembering to carry coupons, since the additional savings will appear right on their American Express account statement."

In addition to the NYC: The Real Deal expansion, consumers will also be able to find great value and opportunity through ongoing NYC & Company programs. NYC Restaurant Week returns from July 12-31 (details at nycgo.com/restaurantweek), the Third Night luxury hotel promotion runs through September 7 (details at nycgo.com/thirdnight), and the Culture Spot--which features a new cultural institution and special offer each month--continues to run throughout the year (details at nycgo.com/culturespot). NYC & Company also announced today the return of last summer's highly successful Go Local campaign, designed to encourage New Yorkers to vacation in the five boroughs. Residents will be given weekly updates on must-see and must-do activities at nycgo.com.

To further promote the City as a family- and kid-friendly travel destination, Fertitta also announced that the characters of Sesame Street would become official NYC ambassadors. Muppets including Elmo, Big Bird and Cookie Monster will be featured on online and outdoor advertising, as well as on taxicab ads throughout the City.

Photos of today's event are available at nycgo.com/pressphotos.

About NYC & Company:

NYC & Company is the official marketing, tourism and partnership organization for the City of New York, dedicated to maximizing travel and tourism opportunities throughout the five boroughs, building economic prosperity and spreading the positive image of New York City worldwide.



For information on visiting and experiencing New York City, go to nycgo.com or visit the Official NYC Information Center at 810 Seventh Avenue, between 52nd and 53rd Streets, in Midtown Manhattan.

About American Express:

American Express Company is a leading global payments, network and travel company founded in 1850. Merchant Services is the merchant network of American Express, which acquires and maintains relationships with millions of merchants around the globe which welcome American Express-branded Cards.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



MyResortNetwork Expands Timeshare Vacation Packages

Resort Connections, Inc continues to add new timeshare vacation package opportunities designed to expand options for vacationers in the area of discounted Vacation Packages. The vacation offerings provide several options on mini-vacations, with many discounts, when a full week is not possible. With their suite-style amenities, timeshares are the perfect vacation lodging for families with children, couples or groups of friends.

Gainesville, FL (PRWEB) July 9, 2009 -- Resort Connections, Inc continues to add new timeshare vacation package opportunities designed to expand options for vacationers in the area of discounted Vacation Packages. [The timeshare vacation packages](#) provides several options on mini-vacations, with many discounts, when a full week is not possible.

MyResortNetwork has partnered with Timeshare Resorts to offer incredible timeshare vacation deals. The Resorts can offer these discount vacations because the packages include a no-obligation timeshare tour for the guests on the benefits of Timeshares and Vacation Ownership. These presentations typically aren't scheduled for more than one to two hours on one of the vacation days, and meals are often included.

[Discounted timeshare vacation packages](#) are available in the Caribbean, Mexico, the United States, and Canada.

Blue Water Resort, Nassau Bahamas \$299 for 3 days/2 nights. Stay right on Cable Beach in a 3 BR unit. Cable Beach is well known for its sand and clear waters. Enjoy the water sports, sunbathing, snorkeling, scuba diving, skiing, fishing and more.

Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic \$99 for 4 days/3 nights for two adults and children at Lifestyle Holiday Vacation Club at Hacienda in Puerto Plata. All-inclusive fee of \$52 per person per day pays all food and drinks. Free airport transportation and extra nights are highly discounted.

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic \$449 for 5 days/4 nights for two adults. All-inclusive fee is included in this price, meals, drinks, and snacks 24 hours day. Free airport transportation.

[Ontario, Canada Vacation Package](#) \$89.95 for 2 days/1 night. This offer includes hot buffet breakfast for two and your choice of three activities: two complimentary rounds of golf at 18-hole Wasaga Sands Golf Club, two certificates at the Scandinavian Spa or \$50 Dining at East Side Mario's. \$10 Gas Voucher from Canadian Tire is also provided.

[Puerto Vallarta & Playa del Carmen Mexican Resort Vacations](#) for \$349.

Stay 5 nights at the Sheraton Baganvillas Resort Vacation Club in Puerto Vallarata, Mexico. Airport transportation provided and more.

Stay 5 nights at the Paseo del Sol in Playa Del Carmen, Mexico. Includes two tickets to Coobongo Night Club Show or two tickets to Chichen Itza. Airport transportation provided.



[Playa Del Carmen & Riviera Maya Mexican All-Inclusive Resort Vacations](#) for \$449

Stay 5 nights at the Viva Wyndham Maya All Inclusive in Playa Del Carmen, Mexico. Airport transportation provided.

Stay 4 nights at an ocean front all-inclusive resort in the Riviera Maya, Mexico. Airport transportation provided.

[Atlantic City, New Jersey Resort Vacation](#) 3 days/2 nights for \$149. Includes free \$50 dining voucher and \$50 in casino coins.

[Branson, Missouri Resort Vacation](#) for \$99. 4 days/3 nights plus your choice of two tickets to an attraction, a \$50 gift card, or a dinner certificate

Cocoa Beach, Florida Vacation \$99 for 3 days/2 nights for \$99. Includes a \$25 Dinner Certificate and a 3 day/2 night Bahamas Cruise for two, including cabin, all food and shows.

Daytona Beach, Florida Resort \$99 for 3 days/2 nights & \$60 restaurant certificate. Additional nights available at a discount rate of \$79 per night.

Fort Myers Beach, Florida Resort \$149 for 4 days/3 nights & a \$50 gift certificate. Luxurious one-bedroom suites located directly on the Gulf of Mexico, all with unsurpassed gulf and sunset views.

The Inn at Oak Plantation Orlando, Florida \$99 for 4 days/3 nights. Includes continental breakfast each morning, complimentary scheduled transportation to Walt Disney World Theme Parks and full access to the resort next door and all the amenities.

Silver Lake Resort Orlando, Florida \$299 4 days/3 nights in a condo. Includes two free tickets to any attraction in Orlando. Available in 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 night packages. Extra nights discounted.

Pigeon Forge, Tennessee Resort Vacation \$99 TOTAL for 4 days/3 nights. Plus you receive a \$75 entertainment voucher for dining or show tickets.

Palm Springs, California Resort Vacation \$99 for 4 days/3 nights. Palm Springs is a favorite for golfers, tennis, sun lovers and shoppers.

Napa Valley, California Resort Promotion Wine Country \$99 for 3 days/2 nights & breakfast for two. Enjoy year-round wineries, great restaurants, tennis, and golf, all nearby.

Virginia Beach, Virginia starting at \$99 for 3 days/2 nights & \$50 gift card. Price varies throughout year.

Williamsburg, Virginia Resort \$99 for 3 days/2 nights & dinner for two. The resort is located in the middle of the outlet shopping and golf courses, and just minutes from major attractions.



Mountain Edge Resort & Spa in Sunapee, New Hampshire \$149-\$189 for 4 days/3 nights. Includes free airport transportation.

An additional website was recently added to support the high demand for [discounted timeshare vacation packages](#). A Twitter account was created to provide [daily updates](#) on vacation packages. Agents are available for consultation and vacation booking at the toll free number (877) 376-0094.

The business is based in Gainesville, Florida and has listed over 5,000 resorts in six years of business. MyResortNetwork is a member of the Better Business Bureau and the American Resort Development Association. They offer vacation services that help timeshare owners with renting and selling their timeshares. Each timeshare resort's network includes information on amenities and location, space to write a resort review, a photo gallery, resort news, and rental/resale listings. With their suite-style amenities, timeshares are the perfect vacation lodging for families with children, couples or groups of friends.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).



Hyatt Regency Tampa Becomes The First Downtown Tampa Hotel To Receive Two Palm 'Green' Designation

Tampa luxury hotel Leads Florida Hospitality Industry in Commitment to Environmentally Sound Business Practices

Tampa, Fl. (PRWEB) July 9, 2009 -- The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) today recognized The Hyatt Regency Tampa as the first [downtown Tampa hotel](#) to receive the Florida Green Lodging Program Two Palm designation. The voluntary state initiative provides the lodging industry with technical assistance, encouraging hotels and motels to adopt cost-saving "green" practices that reduce waste and conserve natural resources.

The Two Palm designation recognizes increased energy conservation and pollution prevention measures since the properties' One Palm designation.

"We are proud to welcome this downtown Tampa hotel into the elite group of Two Palm Hotels," says DEP Southwest District Director Deborah Getzoff. "Hyatt Regency Tampa serves as a good example to the other hotels in Florida's Green Lodging Program that are working towards the Two Palm status."

To receive the Two Palm designation, the [Tampa luxury hotel](#) must have maintained the green practices established during One Palm designation for over one year. Additionally, the downtown Tampa hotel conducted an environmental baseline assessment and demonstrated a reduction in energy and water consumption as well as waste disposal. Hyatt Regency Tampa is currently working towards Three Palm designation, which will occur after three consecutive years of improvement upon Two Palm status.

"We take pride in being the first downtown Tampa hotel to achieve this prestigious designation," says Derrick Morrow, General Manager of The Hyatt Regency Tampa. "It is only through the continued commitment and hard work of the Hyatt Regency Green Team that we're making these significant improvements."

Since 2008, this [Tampa luxury hotel](#) has achieved a 12 percent decrease in electricity, 10 percent decrease in gas, and 7.4 percent decrease in water usage.

About Green Lodging

On July 13, 2007, at his Serve to Preserve Florida Summit on Global Climate Change, Governor Charlie Crist signed three executive orders initiating state energy-use policies. One required state agencies and departments to hold meetings and conferences only at hotels with the Florida Green Lodging Program designation starting January 1, 2008. The Summit was a bold first step to explore groundbreaking technologies and strategies that will place our state at the forefront of the growing world-wide movement to reduce greenhouse gases.

Launched in March 2004, the Florida Green Lodging Program establishes environmental guidelines for hotels and motels to conserve natural resources and prevent pollution. As reward for designation, the state is recommending designated properties in the Florida Green Lodging Program to companies and trade organizations



seeking environmentally conscious lodging and convention facilities. To date, the program has 144 designated properties and more than 325 applicants.

For more information about the Florida Green Lodging Program, visit www.dep.state.fl.us/greenlodging.

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).