



HOTEL MONTELEONE EARNS 2009
AAA FOUR DIAMOND AWARD DESIGNATION

METAIRIE, La. – December 29, 2008 – Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans has been awarded the prestigious AAA Four Diamond Rating for the year 2009. Lodgings at this level offer an extensive array of amenities combined with a high degree of hospitality, service, and attention to detail. Restaurants at this level offer a distinctive fine-dining experience marked by high-quality ingredients, creative presentation, and attentive service. Hotel Monteleone has been named a AAA Four Diamond Award® winner for 6 consecutive years.

Hotel Monteleone is part of a select group of AAA Four Diamond Award winners. Just 3.9 percent of the more than 31,000 AAA Rated® lodgings and 2.8 percent of the 27,000 AAA Rated restaurants were awarded the prestigious AAA Four Diamond designation for 2009.

“AAA Four Diamond Award winners represent an important tier of the hospitality industry, offering guests superior experiences with a high level of hospitality in luxurious surroundings,” said Michael Petrone, AAA director of Tourism Information Development. “To achieve and maintain this level of service is an amazing accomplishment, and AAA is pleased to honor Hotel Monteleone.”

The assignment of a AAA rating of One to Five Diamonds marks the completion of a successful annual evaluation. All properties must first meet AAA's rigorous requirements to become AAA Approved® establishments.

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AAA's Diamond Rating System is the only ratings system that covers all of North America and one of only two that conducts physical, on-site evaluations. It is the only system that uses full-time, professionally trained evaluators to inspect each property on an annual basis using a set of guidelines that are made available to all establishments. AAA evaluates more properties than any other rating entity. Additionally, AAA provides travelers the opportunity to post comments on AAA.com about their experiences at AAA Approved and Diamond Rated establishments. Information about AAA Diamond Ratings and the complete 2009 Four Diamond Award winners list are accessible at AAA.com/Diamonds.

As North America's largest motoring and leisure travel organization, AAA provides more than 51 million members with travel, insurance, financial and automotive-related services. Since its founding in 1902, the not-for-profit, fully tax-paying AAA has been a leader and advocate for the safety and security of all travelers. AAA clubs can be visited on the Internet at www.AAA.com