



BOCA RATON RESORT*

THE WALDORF ASTORIA COLLECTION™

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BOCA RATON RESORT & CLUB RECEIVES FLORIDA GREEN LODGING PROGRAM DESIGNATION

-Environmentally friendly hotel conserves resources, saves money and attracts customers-

Boca Raton, FL, January 27, 2009 – The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) welcomes the Boca Raton Resort & Club to the Florida *Green Lodging* Program with the presentation of the Resort's first Palm Award. The voluntary state initiative encourages the hotel industry to adopt cost-saving "green" practices that reduce waste and conserve natural resources.

"It is wonderful to see businesses implement green practices such as water conservation, recycling and energy reduction because they are not only good for business, they are good for Florida's environment," said DEP Sustainable Initiatives Director Deas Bohn.

To become a designated member of the Florida *Green Lodging* Program, hotels must implement a variety of green practices. These practices include water conservation measures through low flow plumbing fixtures, a linen reuse program, and energy efficiency achieved by installing ENERGY STAR® appliances and programmable thermostats. The waste reduction criteria are met by providing the opportunity to recycle, purchasing items in bulk, purchasing recycled materials and by recycling ink and toner cartridges. All designated properties must also use green cleaners and high efficiency air filters.

The Resort & Club is committed to the Green Program, helping preserve the environment for future generations. To date, the Resort's green initiatives include a recycling program and use of environmentally-friendly products, such as florescent light bulbs, a linens program to reduce water, energy and detergents, recycled paper and "green" cleaning products. In addition, a new energy management system controls the use of electricity by adjusting the air conditioning in rooms and spaces that are not being used and reclaimed water for 90% of all exterior landscaping is used.

Since beginning of the program, the Resort's program has recycled 92,780 pounds of cardboard; 83,560 pounds of glass and saved over \$8,500.

(more)

Launched in March 2004, the Florida *Green Lodging* Program establishes environmental guidelines for hotels and motels to conserve natural resources and prevent pollution. In 2007 Governor Crist signed three executive orders initiating state energy-use policies, including one that requires state agencies and departments to hold meetings and conferences only at hotels with the Florida *Green Lodging* Program designation as of January 1, 2008, whenever possible. For more information about the Florida *Green Lodging* Program, visit www.dep.state.fl.us/greenlodging.

DEP's Office of Sustainable Initiatives is comprised of three voluntary, non-regulatory programs that assist Florida industry and citizens in protecting the environment. The *Clean Marina* Program, the Florida *Green Lodging* Program and the Florida Pollution Prevention Program offer a variety of services including on-site assessments, consultations, speakers and workshops, all at no cost to citizens or organizations. The goal of the Sustainable Initiatives programs is to meet the needs of the present population without compromising resources for future generations. To learn more about DEP's Sustainable Initiatives, visit www.dep.state.fl.us/green/.

About the Boca Raton Resort & Club

Fresh from more than \$220 million in renovations, the 356-acre Boca Raton Resort & Club is one of the country's premier resort destinations and private club facilities. The Resort's amenities include a half-mile stretch of private beach, the acclaimed Spa Palazzo, two 18-hole championship golf courses, the famed Dave Pelz Scoring Game School, one of the country's top tennis programs with 30 tennis courts and the Evert Adult and Junior Academy, full-service marina, seven swimming pools, three state-of-the-art fitness centers and a variety of water sports. The Resort & Club also features a variety of fun family activities, children's programs and an outstanding selection of world-class dining as well as more than 150,000 square feet of meeting and event space.

Morimoto of Iron Chef fame, opened his signature **Morimoto's Sushi Bar at the Resort. Serendipity**, New York City's legendary dessert restaurant with famous ice-cream concoctions and a family-friendly menu opened in November 2008. Other dining options include **Cielo by Angela Hartnett**, a **Gordon Ramsay** partner and Michelin-star rated chef, and New York's famed **Old Homestead Steak House**.

In February 2009, the new Beach Club debuts after a \$120 million renovation, designed by **Fiona Thompson** of Richmond International. At the edge of the Atlantic Ocean, the Beach Club features 212 custom-designed rooms and suites; redesigned lobby and reception; a new restaurant, lounge and ocean view fitness center; a 60,000-square-foot amenity deck with three redesigned pools; a half mile of private beach; and 10,000 square feet of meeting space.

For reservations, call the Boca Raton Resort & Club at (888) 495-BOCA or (561) 447-3000, or contact your travel professional. Information is also available on the Resort & Club's Web site: www.bocaresort.com.