



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***HISTORIC GRAND HOTEL ANNOUNCES HOLIDAY PLANS***

**October 22, 2014 – Point Clear, Alabama** – It's the most wonderful time of the year at the Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa. From last minute Christmas shopping in the Fairhope's boutiques to spectacular holiday décor revealed the day after Thanksgiving, plans this year at the Grand Hotel are better than ever. Enjoy the massive oaks with twinkling lights, a massive gingerbread version of The Grand, wreaths, poinsettias, Christmas trees and Santa Claus himself this holiday season. Or relax and recharge from holiday stress with world-class treatments in the spa. Here are some of the Grand options available to our guests this holiday season.

**GRAND GINGERBREAD VILLAGE AND HOLIDAY DECORATIONS**

The magnificent Gingerbread Village features a massive replica of the Grand Hotel. The Grand gingerbread masterpiece will be unveiled the day after Thanksgiving with the rest of the dazzling décor at the hotel, including the spectacular Christmas trees and hundreds of poinsettias. The famed Live Oak trees at The Grand are filled with white lights.

**GRAND HOLIDAY PACKAGES**

Named one of the nation's top resorts by *Conde Nast Travler*, the Grand Hotel is offering great deals for the holiday season. From golf packages from \$279 including a round of golf to spa packages from \$344 to tennis packages from \$224, the Grand Hotel has a variety of packages focused on your interests. History lovers have both a Civil War package option from \$229 and a special Bellingrath Gardens package from \$238 which includes tickets to the wonderful gardens. Call 1.800.544.9933 to plan your Grand Holiday family visit. To see more on Grand Hotel packages and to make reservations visit [www.marriottgrand.com](http://www.marriottgrand.com).

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA IN GRAND STYLE**

Santa Claus is coming to town, and he's bringing an appetite for delicious Christmas cuisine and historic holiday luxury. Enjoy an appetizing breakfast buffet at the Grand's

Four Diamond restaurant prior to a visit with Santa. Breakfast with Santa will be on Saturdays in the Grand's Dining Room: Nov. 29, Dec. 6, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20. Breakfast buffet will be served from 6:30 to 10:30 a.m. Santa will be visiting from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. each Saturday to take pictures. Reservations are required.

## **SANTA'S LISTS HIGHLIGHT GRAND ACTIVITIES**

Not only is Santa watching who is naughty and nice, but he also is keeping an eye on the events happening at the Grand Hotel for children of all ages. For families staying at the Grand Hotel for Christmas, here are some holiday options to consider:

### **December 23, 2014**

- Snowflake bookmark – Make your own bookmark for winter reading.
- Sandy Candy – Create a sweet treat to eat.
- Firing of the Cannon and Afternoon tea – Grand traditions celebrated every day.
- Glow in the Dark Scavenger Hunt – Search for special glow in the dark goodies throughout the resort.

### **December 24, 2014**

- Feed the Grand Ducks with Rudolph – Search and feed the ducks with a holiday superstar.
- Christmas Stockings – Decorate your special Christmas stockings.
- Paint Your Own Nutcracker – Create a holiday keepsake to bring home.
- Rudolph Handprints – Children's hands become reindeer antlers in this classic craft.
- Fireside Reading and Hanging of the Stockings – It is indeed the night before Christmas.
- Holiday Welcome Reception – Wear your holiday best for this Grand tradition.
- Reindeer Tuck-Ins – Rudolph will stop by your room to tuck-in children before Santa arrives.

### **December 25, 2014 – Christmas Day**

- Stocking Hunt – Locate your personalized stocking to see what the big guy left you.
- Eggnog Reception and Christmas Carol Singing – Joy the world, Merry Christmas.
- Grand Christmas Buffett – Dining Room for hotel guests. Grand Ballroom open to everyone. Reservations required. (251) 928-9201.
- Sleigh Rides – Horse drawn carriage rides around the resort.
- Candy Cane Hunt – Search the Grand grounds for candy canes. Prizes awarded.
- Family Bingo – While Santa rests, enjoy a classic game as a family.
- Christmas Bonfire and S'mores – Enjoy a Christmas bonfire. Make s'mores and watch "The Polar Express" around the fire on the beach.

## **HOLIDAY SHOPPING IN FAIRHOPE**

Whether it is jewelry, antiques, clothing or something else, downtown Fairhope has what is on this year's Christmas list. The Grand Hotel is teaming up with all of the quaint shops and boutiques to offer discounts for this holiday season's shopping. Be sure to inquire about Grand Hotel discounts and offerings at each of the shops in downtown Fairhope.

## **SPA GIFT CARDS MAKE THE PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFT**

Give the gift of rejuvenation this holiday by purchasing a spa gift card for that special someone. The 20,000 square-foot European-style spa at the Grand Hotel offers the ideal place for pampering. Enjoy a warm stone massage, a signature Grand facial or other relaxing treatments. Escape the holiday stress and call 1.251.928.9201 to purchase spa gift cards.

*For more information on the Grand Hotel Marriott, call 251.928.9201 or visit [www.marriottgrand.com](http://www.marriottgrand.com)*

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***Media** - For more information, to set up interviews or for holiday photography from last year, contact Bill Lang at (205) 965-9574 or [bill.lang@rtjresorts.com](mailto:bill.lang@rtjresorts.com).*