

## National Media Honor Grand Hotel

# ALABAMA'S GRAND HOTEL NAMED BEST SOUTHERN RESORTS BY CONDE NAST TRAVELER & MEETING PUBLICATIONS

Point Clear, AL –November 6, 2014 - Since 1847, the Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa has maintained a gracious tradition of Southern hospitality on Mobile Bay. The readers of *Conde Nast Traveler* have taken notice and once again named it one of the “Best Resort in the South” in the 2014 Readers’ Choice Awards.

( <http://www.cntraveler.com/readers-choice-awards/2014/united-states/best-resorts-in-the-south-readers-choice-awards-2014>) Exceptional service and world-class amenities create the perfect recipe for great meetings at the historic Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa. *Conde Nast Traveler* named the Grand’s spa one of the best in the country earlier in 2014.

The honors for the Queen of Southern Resorts continue to arrive. *ConventionSouth* magazine readers just voted the Grand Hotel a Readers’ Choice Award winner for best meeting sites in the South. Additionally, *ConventionSouth* named the Grand Hotel one of the “South’s Top 18 Golf Resorts for Groups.” *Successful Meetings* magazine presented the Grand Hotel with its Pinnacle Award for excellence in meeting locations in 2014. *Meetings South* named the resort of the “Best of the South” meeting locations for service.

“Honors from national travel and meeting publications are a true testament to our exceptional staff,” said Bruce Smith, general manager of the Grand Hotel. “With 405 guest rooms, the Grand works well for larger meetings but also maintains the intimacy and luxury our leisure guests desire.”

In 2013, the Historic Hotels of America named the Grand Hotel “Best Historic Hotel” in the country with more than 400 rooms. This year, Historic Hotels of America named the Grand’s social media efforts as the best in country for historic properties. The Grand Hotel embraces its rich history through daily pageantry and a cannon firing. Meeting attendees enjoy the Grand’s exceptional amenities, updated meeting facilities and great cuisine, as well. A variety of package options for leisure guests can be found at [www.grandhotelmarrriott.com](http://www.grandhotelmarrriott.com).

### Meetings

The Grand Hotel offers 23 meeting rooms with 37,000 square feet of meeting space. Beautifully decorated, the meeting space is convenient to the resort’s 405 guest rooms. The 9,750 sq. ft. Grand Ballroom with beachfront patio can accommodate

1,000 for meetings and 1,400 for receptions. The 5,000 sq. ft. Azalea Ballroom divides into 6 sections and can accommodate 500 for receptions. The 4,473-square-foot Magnolia Ballroom accommodates 470 for meetings.

### **Recreation: Golf, Tennis, Spa and More**

Both meeting and leisure guest are looking to relax and recharge. The Grand features two renovated golf courses - Dogwood (7,620 yards) Azalea (6,785 yards) – consistently ranked as some of the Marriott’s best and part of the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail. *GOLF Magazine* named it one of the best 36 golf trips in the world. *Golf Digest* named the Grand one of the best golf locations for female golfers in the country.

Guests wanting more recreation options will be pleased with the Grand’s selections. The new tennis complex received rave reviews from *Tennis Magazine* and offers both group outings and individual instructions. The resort’s signature pools offer options from slides and waterfalls to serious lap swimming. The Grand Hotel also features three beaches on Mobile Bay and complimentary use of sailboats and kayaks. Competition can be fierce at the croquet lawn, horseshoe pits and putting greens, but fortunately hammocks and porch swings are nearby for a quick recovery.

Meeting attendees that prefer to be pampered will find an exceptional spa on site ranked by *Conde Nast Traveler* as one of the best in the country. Bathed in the charm and beauty of the South and serenaded by the timeless rhythm of the sea, The Spa at The Grand Hotel invites you to step into a world of gracious hospitality and luxurious service cocooned in 550 of the most beautiful acres in Alabama.

The Spa at the Grand is devoted to complete well being of their guests and provide a serene environment designed to relax, revitalize and rejuvenate the mind, the body and the spirit. Guests experience world-class treatments to renew energy, joy and health.

### **Cuisine**

Mobile Bay and the Gulf of Mexico offer fresh seafood to the delight of our chefs and guests. Steak lovers are in luck with the new Grand Steakhouse offering great selections and spectacular views. Forget traditional banquet food and forgettable meals, our chefs will make it grand for you and the attendees. When outside of meetings, the Grand Hotel offers seven restaurants and lounges ranging from poolside to upscale. The consistency of quality food and excellent service remains legendary.

### **Go Grand for Meetings**

Updated meeting spaces, restaurants, lounges, golf courses, tennis courts and pools to a European-style spa make the Grand Hotel the ideal choice for warm weather meetings. History lovers will enjoy the daily cannon firing at 4 p.m. followed by afternoon tea in the lobby. The Grand Hotel also features a great fitness center, 10

tennis courts, three pools, complimentary bikes and kayaks for guests to stay active. Relax in a 20,000-square-foot European-inspired spa which is consistently ranked among Marriott's best spas in the world for guest satisfaction. The picturesque town of Fairhope nearby offers quaint boutiques, art galleries and antique stores for those wanting a bit of retail therapy.

If the combination of service, style and hospitality is appealing to you for your next meeting, our team is ready to listen to your expectations and help put a plan into motion. A variety of value dates may be available for 2014 and 2015.

**Getting There:** The Grand Hotel is 46 miles from the Mobile Regional Airport and 59 miles from Pensacola International Airport. South of I-10, the Grand Hotel is located on Eastern Shore of Mobile Bay and is adjacent to Fairhope, Alabama.

**Contact Information**

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