

SUMMER PLANS ANNOUNCED AT ALABAMA'S GRAND HOTEL

Pt. Clear, Ala - April 27, 2016 - The pool butlers have been trained. Fireworks have been ordered. Final touches are being made to an exceptional new golf training/practice facility. The Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa in Point Clear, Alabama is putting on the final touches to welcome both leisure and meeting guests this spring and summer. Since opening in 1847, the Grand Hotel has maintained a gracious tradition of Southern hospitality on Mobile Bay and was named one of the top historic hotels in the country by *USA Today*.

"Exceptional service and world-class amenities create the perfect recipe for great stays at the historic Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa," said Scott Tripoli, general manager. "*Travel + Leisure* and other national leisure and meeting trade publications have showcased The Grand Hotel as a top destination," he said. "*Golf Digest* and *Tennis Magazine* have both named the resort top spots for recreation, so if guests play golf, tennis or want to try FootGolf, they are in for a Grand time. While this area is beautiful all year long, spring and summer at the Grand Hotel are magical and we hope to make it better than ever this year."

Here are some of the Grand highlights in the coming months:

Memorial Day - Celebrate the end of the school year and the unofficial start of summer with a Grand Weekend for Memorial Day. From scavenger hunts to crafts for children and craft beer for adults, enjoy a Grand stay and prepared to be relaxed. Pool chaise lounge chairs and spa treatment tables await your return.

July 4th at The Grand - Pack your red, white and blue and head to the Grand Hotel for Independence Day. After a day by the pool, sailing on Mobile Bay or relaxing in the spa, don't miss fireworks over the resort on Sunday, July 3 and in Fairhope on Monday, July 4. This is one of the peak holidays at the resort and early hotel reservations are recommended.

New Golf Practice Facility Opening in July - The Experience is a state-of-the-art golf practice facility that will be second to none in the Gulf Coast area. With world class facilities, The Experience features three acres of tee surface, 22,000 sq. ft. of USGA greens surfaces, covered hitting area, today's most advanced teaching technology, top 100 instruction, club fitting services, a two-acre short game area and a 1,500 square foot range house. The Experience will be a great compliment to the already internationally recognized Grand Hotel. Niall Fraser, Director of Golf at Lakewood says "The Experience will be a place where golfers can come and hit every shot in the bag, work on their short game, get a quick tip from the pro or get their grips changed and be back home in plenty of time for soccer practice or whatever the day's events may be. The Experience is a destination for the avid golfer as well as families looking to enjoy the great game of golf."

Grand Family Golf Deals - Golf has been a Grand tradition for generations. In June and July, a family of four can enjoy a round of golf after 4 p.m. for just \$50, including rental clubs. Enjoy the beauty of the Lakewood courses with your family, whether they are beginners or past PGA TOUR winners. An afternoon on the links will create great family memories and hopefully a couple of birdies, as well. Golf cart rental is extra.

FootGolf Blends Golf and Soccer - If you want to enjoy the challenges of the Lakewood Courses but soccer is more your thing, try FootGolf. The sport blends golf and soccer and is a fun activity for all ages. Play nine holes of FootGolf at Lakewood this summer for \$10 per person after 5 p.m. FootGolf tournaments are held every Saturday from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Culinary Weekends - The third weekend of each month, the chefs at the Grand Hotel Marriott will offer a culinary weekend with beverage classes on Friday night and culinary classes on Saturday mornings. The resort's Culinary Weekends are aimed at expanding the participants' knowledge of the culinary basics while also incorporating more advanced techniques. Whether you are a beginner or an expert, the chef's classes are fun, hands-on experiences that will have people raving about your culinary skills. In each Grand Culinary Academy, you will receive a two-hour cooking demonstration, recipes, food sampling and a diploma. Classes are on Saturdays at 10:00 AM and are limited in size. Most Grand Hotel Culinary Academy programs are \$25. The beverage classes are on Fridays at 5:30pm and are \$15. Participants in the beverage classes must be over 21 years to attend Call 251.928.9201 for more information and to register for the classes

About the Grand Hotel

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. From restaurants and lounges, golf courses, tennis courts and pools to a European-style spa, the Grand Hotel boasts world-class amenities for guests to enjoy. Dine at one of the seven restaurants and lounges ranging from casual dining to upscale as well as Sunday brunch. History lovers will enjoy the daily cannon firing at 4:00 p.m. followed by afternoon tea in the lobby.

Play one of 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. The Grand Hotel also features two fitness centers 10 tennis courts, five pools providing and 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 Grand Hotel is part of the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail's Resort Collection and is a member of the Historic Hotels of America.

Contact Information

Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa

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(251) 928-9201 - www.grandhotelmarriott.com

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.