

THE WESTIN POINSETT

GREENVILLE

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THE WESTIN POINSETT HOTEL RECEIVES AAA FOUR DIAMOND AWARD FOR SEVENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

GREENVILLE, S.C. – December 10, 2009 – The Westin Poinsett Hotel, the city’s only Four Diamond Hotel, just received its seventh consecutive Four Diamond Award for 2010 from the American Automobile Association (AAA), North America’s premier travel rating program.

AAA annually evaluates more than 60,000 lodging establishments and restaurants, and rates them on a scale of one to five Diamonds. AAA rates more properties than any other rating entity and is the only rating system that covers the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean. It is one of only two that conduct physical, on-site evaluations. Tourism editors conduct unannounced evaluations of lodgings and restaurants, scrutinizing such areas as cleanliness, ambiance, amenities, and service. In the state of South Carolina, only 20 hotels received the Four Diamond Award and the Westin Poinsett is the only hotel to receive the award in the Upstate of South Carolina.

“AAA Four Diamond Award winners consistently deliver superior hospitality marked by personal service and extensive amenities in high-quality, comfortable surroundings,” said Michael Petrone, AAA Director of Tourism Information Development. “To achieve and maintain this level of service is a commendable accomplishment, and AAA is pleased to honor the Westin Poinsett Hotel.”

“This award is clearly a wonderful recognition of our team’s hard work. Greenville has high expectations when it comes to the Westin Poinsett,” said Fabian Unterzaucher, General Manager of The Westin Poinsett Hotel. “We thoroughly enjoy being one of the top meeting places for our Greenville neighbors and we are acutely aware that nothing but consistent and outstanding service will keep us at the top.”

In addition to receiving the Four Diamond Award again, the Westin Poinsett has also achieved top Westin-brand satisfaction rankings.

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These scores are measured in key service areas and based on guest surveys. The property scored an outstanding 8.81 out of 10 in 2009. This places the hotel eighth out of all 108 Westin properties in North America.

About the Westin Poinsett Hotel

Constructed by W.L Stoddard in 1925, The Westin Poinsett Hotel boasts historic 1920's elegance and charm paired with renovated facilities. Situated around a newly renovated downtown, they are just paces from more than 100 shops, restaurants and other attractions like The Peace Center for the Performing Arts, Falls Park on the Reedy River, and the Bi-Lo Center. Offering 200 guestrooms, its historic heritage is reflected in the meticulously restored interiors, designed to capture the original architecture and offer modern-day amenities.

For more information on The Westin Poinsett Hotel call 864-421-9700 or visit www.westinpoinsettgreenville.com.

About AAA

Since its founding in 1902 as the American Automobile Association, this association of independent clubs has been an advocate for the motorist and traveler. It has fought motorists' legislative battles, protected them against unduly restrictive legislation, and worked against harsh and unjust prosecutions. AAA has been in the forefront of the movement for adequate roads and safe use of those roads. It has fought for equitable taxation and stood constant watch over the rights and prerogatives of America's travelers.

A not-for-profit, fully tax-paying organization with more than 50 million members, AAA is well respected for its credibility and integrity. Known primarily for providing emergency road service, maps and travel publications, AAA also has a broad range of travel services, member-benefit programs and public service activities.

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