Elite Traveler Announces 101 Top Hotel/Resort Suites of the Year

Price Still Irrelevant to Super-Rich: Top Suites Cost up to $52,000 per night

NEW YORK, July 24, 2008 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ -- Elite Traveler, the worldwide private jet lifestyle magazine, announces the release of its much anticipated and highly regarded "101 Top Hotel/Resort Suites of the Year" in the July/August 2008 issue and online at http://www.elitetraveler.com.

Despite the current trend toward 'staycations' for much of the population, the Super-Rich continue to traverse the globe on private jets, experiencing the best the world has to offer in terms of hotel and resort accommodations, shopping, and living the private jet lifestyle. Elite Traveler readers average 41 trips per year, including 10 intercontinental trips.

The most expensive suite on the 101 Top Suites this year is in Europe, the $52,000/night Royal Penthouse Suite at the Hotel President Wilson in Geneva Switzerland, followed closely by the $50,000/night Royal Villa at the Grand Resort Lagonissi in Attica, Greece; and the $21,000/night Imperial Suite at the Park Hyatt Paris-Vendome.

In the United States, the most expensive suite is the Ty Warner Penthouse at the Four Seasons Hotel New York at $30,000/night, also notable as the most expensive suite ever built in the United States. The Chairman Suite at the Palazzo Resort in Las Vegas comes in next at $20,000/night, followed by two suites at $15,000/night -- the Empire Suite at the Carlyle, a Rosewood Hotel, New York, and the Grand Suite at Hawaii's Grand Wailea Resort and Spa.

"We keep track of all luxury properties that are opening and renovating and visit them throughout the year," says Editorial Director Laura Hughes. "Our readers spend more than $400,000 per year at hotels and resorts, so price isn't an issue to them -- we just want to alert them to the most unique design styles, best services, and new amenities in the most amazing locations, whatever the price."

While approximately one-third of the suites on the list cost over $10,000/night, also making the 101 Top Suites list due to a winning combination of service, amenities, style, and location are a few select hotels within the grasp of those seeking a once-in-a-lifetime jet set experience. An Ocean Front Suite at
Fort Lauderdale's St. Regis Resort, a one bedroom suite at the Palms Place Hotel and Condo, Las Vegas; Suite #1 at Phinda Mountain Lodge, Phinda Private Game Reserve in South Africa; and a pool villa at the Alila, Cha-Am in Amphur Cha-Am, Thailand all rank among the best in the world and can be secured for less than $1000/night.

The newest entry to the "Elite Recommends" series of downloadable PDF guides created to help the super wealthy navigate the often confusing waters of luxury hotel and resort stays as well as high end fashion, jewelry, watch and real estate purchases, "101 Top Suites" was compiled by the editors of Elite Traveler and a panel of celebrity readers including Barry Manilow, Lindsay Davenport, Sean Combs, and Kelly Ripa. Like all Elite Recommendations, it is available to view or download at http://www.elitetraveler.com.