

PRESS RELEASE

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FIRST HOTEL IN MONTEREY RECEIVES MOBIL TRAVEL GUIDE FOUR-STAR AWARD *Monterey Plaza Hotel and Spa Recognized as one of the Finest Establishments in the Country*

MONTEREY, Calif. – February 23, 2009—Mobil Travel Guide has awarded the Monterey Plaza Hotel and Spa a Four-Star Rating, establishing it as the **first** hotel in the city of Monterey to receive this distinction. For the past two years the hotel management and staff have been working to achieve this status, and now join the ranks of a select few hotels in the United States and Canada—137—that have earned the award this year.

"It is undeniable that the travel industry has felt the effects of the recent economic downturn. However, it is in these difficult times that consumers recognize the importance of great service and hospitality," said Shane O'Flaherty, President and CEO of Mobil Travel Guide. "Now more than ever, consumers rely on our expertise to help them make informed travel decisions and spend their dollars wisely."

To achieve Mobil Travel Guide Four-Star status, properties must either meet or exceed the bar-setting service standards set forth by a Mobil Travel Guide team of anonymous, unannounced expert inspectors. This rating process is considered to be the most rigorous and comprehensive in the industry. The rating is based on more than 750 standardized criteria for hotels beginning with a facility inspection that looks at every aspect of the property, including its overall cleanliness, condition and location.

The Mobil Travel Guide founded the prestigious star rating system and are the providers of one of the most comprehensive evaluation systems of hotels, restaurants and spas throughout the world. Their list has been defining the hospitality industry's highest standard for excellence for over fifty years.

Mobil Travel Guide is under license from Exxon Mobil Corporation and is headquartered in Chicago, IL . For a detailed explanation of how Mobil Travel Guide compiles its star ratings, or to observe the comprehensive review on Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa done incognito by Mobil Travel Guide experts visit www.mobiltravelguide.com.

The Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa is located at 400 Cannery Row, Monterey, California. For more information please call (831) 646-1700 or visit www.montereyplazahotel.com.

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About the Monterey Plaza Hotel and Spa

The Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa is a proud member of Woodside Hotels & Resorts Group and is located in Monterey, CA. For reservations or event bookings, please call (831) 646-1700 or visit www.montereyplazahotel.com.