

**FOR 20TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR, ANDREW HARPER'S HIDEAWAY READERS
RANK AUBERGE DU SOLEIL AMONG THE WORLD'S BEST RESORTS**

Annual Survey of Affluent Travelers Features Auberge du Soleil as Number 6 Top US Hotel

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (September 7, 2005) – According to the oldest, most reliable poll of its kind conducted among discriminating travelers, Auberge du Soleil, Napa's first luxury resort and the flagship property of Auberge Resorts, has been voted among the best in the world. *Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report's* 24th Annual Survey of the World's Best Hotels, Resorts & Hideaways, published in the September 2005 issue, ranks Auberge du Soleil in Napa Valley Number 6 in its list of Top 20 U.S. Resort Hotels, making the Napa Valley icon a contender on the list for the past 20 years.

Twenty years ago, Auberge du Soleil, one of Northern California's most revered dining establishments, opened the doors of its inn, a handful of *maisons* scattered across a 33-acre hillside olive grove in Napa Valley. Recently celebrating its 20th anniversary, Auberge du Soleil this year also unveiled a sophisticated renovation, welcomed a new chef and rolled out new amenities created to elevate the art of relaxation for which the Auberge has become renowned.

Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report Poll is conducted among high-level United States executives. More than 85 percent of this year's respondents hold the title of President/CEO/Owner/Partner and 90 percent have traveled outside of the United States for business and leisure during the past 12 months. Now in its 27th year of publication, *Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report* is the ultimate travel guide for sophisticated travelers seeking candid reviews of enchanting luxury hotels, resorts and hideaways in the United States and around the world.

"We are honored that this beloved property has been voted one of the best in the world by the readers of *Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report*," said George Goeggel, Managing Partner of Auberge du Soleil. "Auberge du Soleil brought a new style of informal elegance, luxury and service to the world of hospitality 20 years ago, and as it celebrates its 20th anniversary, the Auberge is better than ever."

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Auberge du Soleil is the flagship property of **Auberge Resorts**, a collection of exceptional hotels, resorts and private clubs, each with a unique personality that assures a memorable guest experience. Among the distinctive properties are Esperanza, The Lodge at CordeValle, Calistoga Ranch and the new Inn at Palmetto Bluff, with several others currently in development. While Auberge Resorts nurtures the individuality of each establishment, all are characterized by a set of communal elements: intimate, understated elegance; magnificent natural settings; inspired cuisine utilizing the very best regional ingredients; and gracious yet unobtrusive service. For more information about Auberge Resorts, please visit www.aubergeresorts.com.

Auberge du Soleil is also a member of **Relais & Châteaux**, the prestigious global hospitality association of intimate, elegant and independently owned hotels and acclaimed restaurants. Founded in 1954 in France, the association is comprised of 469 luxurious establishments in 51 countries.

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