

**AUBERGE DU SOLEIL RANKS HIGH IN *TRAVEL + LEISURE'S*  
500 WORLD'S BEST HOTELS**

*Napa Valley Property Recognized For Being One Of The World's Top Hotels*

**RUTHERFORD, CALIF. (December 16, 2009)** – Auberge du Soleil, Napa Valley's legendary hillside inn, is proud to be honored in *Travel + Leisure's* "500 World's Best Hotels" 8<sup>th</sup> annual awards. *Travel + Leisure*, among the most respected travel magazines worldwide, sent its international team of reporters and editors to check out the 500 highest-rated hotels, resorts, inns, and lodges in the "World's Best" survey and identified what makes them special, highlighting Auberge du Soleil for its continued commitment to providing an exceptional hotel experience for its guests.

Auberge du Soleil ranked highly in California with an impressive score of 89.36.

"We are pleased to know that Auberge du Soleil continues to be valued so highly by *Travel + Leisure*," said Mark Harmon, CEO of Auberge Resorts. "We take a great deal of pride in providing an unparalleled experience for all of our guests. This recognition serves both to validate that commitment and to reenergize our dedicated staff to continue their amazing work."

*Travel + Leisure* magazine's 2010 "500 World's Best" appears in the January 2010 issue of the magazine and online at <http://www.travelandleisure.com/tl500/2010/region/us>. *Travel + Leisure* international team of reporters and editors again searched the globe for the best and highest-rated hotels it could find, drawing from the *Travel + Leisure* "World's Best" Readers' Choice Awards released in July 2009. The eighth annual "500 World's Best" list includes hotels, inns and lodges from six continents.

### **About Auberge Resorts**

Auberge Resorts is 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 Auberge du Soleil, Napa Valley; Esperanza, Cabo San Lucas; Calistoga Ranch, Napa Valley; The Inn at Palmetto Bluff, South Carolina; Encantado, Santa Fe; Rancho Valencia Resort and Spa, Rancho Santa Fe, Calif, 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; captivating locations that inspire exceptional cuisine and spa experiences; and gracious yet unobtrusive service. For more information about Auberge Resorts, please visit [www.aubergeresorts.com](http://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 480 luxurious establishments in 56 countries.

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**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Stacy Lewis / Adryn Miller

Murphy O'Brien, Inc.

310-453-2539

[slewis@murphyobrien.com](mailto:slewis@murphyobrien.com)

[amiller@murphyobrien.com](mailto:amiller@murphyobrien.com)