



## **AAA FIVE DIAMOND HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS 2017 FACT SHEET**

*Data valid Jan. 27, 2017, through Dec. 31, 2017*

Continuing a more than 80-year tradition, AAA's professionally trained inspectors use published guidelines to conduct unannounced hotel and restaurant evaluations, assigning Approved establishments a rating of One to Five AAA Diamonds.

Properties identified by AAA as potential candidates for the Five Diamond Rating undergo multiple evaluations and a final decision by a panel of experts.

A Five Diamond hotel provides ultimate luxury, sophistication and comfort with extraordinary physical attributes, meticulous personalized service, extensive amenities and impeccable standards of excellence. A Five Diamond restaurant provides leading-edge cuisine of the finest ingredients, uniquely prepared by an acclaimed chef, served by expert service staff led by a maître d' in extraordinary surroundings.

- ◆ For 2017, six hotels were newly added to the coveted Five Diamond Award list.
- ◆ A total of 183 establishments (120 hotels and 63 restaurants) throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean received the AAA Five Diamond Rating in the past 12 months, qualifying them for the 2017 Five Diamond Award list.
- ◆ Five Diamond establishments represent just 0.3 percent of the nearly 59,000 AAA Approved establishments (nearly 28,000 hotels and more than 31,000 restaurants).
- ◆ Grenada attained its first Five Diamond establishment this year: Spice Island Beach Resort in St. George's.
- ◆ New York is the only city to add a new Five Diamond hotel and restaurant: The St. Regis New York and The Modern.
- ◆ States with the greatest number of Five Diamond hotels: California (17); Florida (11); New York (10); Quintana Roo, Mexico (7); and Nevada (7).
- ◆ Cities with the greatest number of Five Diamond hotels: New York (10); Las Vegas (7); and Chicago (5). Scottsdale, Arizona, Toronto, Canada, and Playa del Carmen, Mexico, each have four Five Diamond hotels.
- ◆ States with the greatest number of Five Diamond restaurants: New York (10); California (9); Illinois (6); Quintana Roo, Mexico (6); and Nevada (5).
- ◆ Cities with the greatest number of Five Diamond restaurants: New York (9), Chicago (6) and Las Vegas (5). San Francisco and Cancun each have three Five Diamond restaurants.
- ◆ States with the greatest number of Five Diamond establishments: California (26) – 17 hotels/9 restaurants; New York (20) – 10 hotels/10 restaurants; Florida (14) – 11 hotels/3 restaurants;

Quintana Roo, Mexico (13) – 7 hotels/6 restaurants; Nevada (12) – 7 hotels/5 restaurants; and Illinois (11) – 5 hotels/6 restaurants.

- ◆ Only one hotel has maintained the Five Diamond Rating for 41 consecutive years, since 1976 when the Diamond Ratings were first introduced for hotels: The Broadmoor in Colorado Springs.
- ◆ Ten additional hotels have maintained the Five Diamond Rating for 25 or more years: Fairmont Scottsdale Princess in Scottsdale, Arizona; The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel in Dana Point, California; The Little Nell in Aspen, Colorado; Four Seasons Hotel Washington, D.C.; The Ritz-Carlton in Naples, Florida; Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea in Hawaii; Four Seasons Hotel Chicago; Four Seasons Hotel Boston; The Inn at Little Washington in Washington, Virginia, and The American Club in Kohler, Wisconsin.
- ◆ The restaurant with the longest Five Diamond tenure is The Inn at Little Washington Dining Room in Virginia, which has maintained the rating for 29 consecutive years, since 1988.
- ◆ Six additional restaurants have maintained the Five Diamond Rating for 20 or more years: The Belvedere in Beverly Hills, California; Erna's Elderberry House Restaurant in Oakhurst, California; La Mer in Honolulu, Hawaii; Everest in Chicago, Illinois; The White Barn Inn Restaurant in Kennebunk Beach, Maine, and The Farrington House Restaurant in Farrington Village, North Carolina.

#### **ABOUT AAA DIAMOND RATINGS**

For more than 80 years, AAA has used professional inspectors to conduct anonymous, in-person property evaluations. AAA offers the only rating system using comprehensive, on-site professional hotel and restaurant evaluations guided by member priorities. With a far greater inventory than any other rating entity, AAA's rating system covers the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean.

Travelers can find Diamond Rated establishments and inspector insight in AAA's trip planning products: the [AAA Mobile app](#), the online [TripTik Travel Planner](#) mapping and routing tool, searchable online [AAA Travel Guides](#) and AAA TourBook guides available to members at AAA offices.

#### **About The Auto Club Group**

The Auto Club Group (ACG) is the second largest AAA club in North America. ACG and its affiliates provide membership, travel, insurance and financial services offerings to over 9 million members across eleven states and two U.S. territories including Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Michigan, Nebraska, North Dakota, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands; most of Illinois and Minnesota; and a portion of Indiana. ACG belongs to the national AAA federation with more than 56 million members in the United States and Canada and whose mission includes protecting and advancing freedom of mobility and improving traffic safety.