

## **ALHI Adds Famed Georgia Resort -- The Lodge at Sea Island Golf Club & The Cloister at Sea Island Join As ALHI's Newest Members**

WASHINGTON, DC (November 2009) – The famed **Sea Island Resorts**, which includes the newly constructed Mobil Five-Star **Cloister at Sea Island** and its sister resort, the incomparable AAA Five-Diamond **Lodge at Sea Island Golf Club**, has joined **Associated Luxury Hotels International (ALHI)**. Located along Southeastern Georgia's scenic Atlantic Coast, Sea Island will now receive dedicated National Sales services and support by ALHI as their authorized National Sales extension to the meetings, incentive/recognition travel, and convention marketplaces, effective immediately. Sea Island Resorts is owned and operated by Sea Island Company.

The two resorts individually become ALHI's fourth and fifth members in Georgia, joining the chic **Mansion on Forsyth Park** in historic **Savannah**; the 3,500-acre, popular Four-Diamond **Chateau Élan** in Braselton (**near Atlanta**); and the brand new **Loews Atlanta Hotel**, opening in April 2010 in the fashionable Midtown District of Atlanta. For information on any of the ALHI members in Georgia, and worldwide, visit [www.alhi.com](http://www.alhi.com) .

Located half way between Savannah, Georgia, and Jacksonville, Florida, **Sea Island Resorts** features a total of 17,000 square feet of meeting space which includes an elegant 7,800-square-foot ballroom and several boardrooms. **The Lodge at Sea Island Golf Club** is reminiscent of an English country manor, and offers 40 spacious and luxurious guest rooms and suites that overlook emerald fairways of its championship golf courses and the St. Simons Sound. The stately and significantly larger **Cloister at Sea Island** offers 175 large guest rooms and suites, situated among hundred-year-old oaks, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, tidal Black Banks River and lush coastal environment.

**Recreational options at Sea Island** include two championship 18-hole golf courses (Seaside and Plantation), five miles of private beach, the Mobil Five-Star 65,000-square-foot Cloister Spa and Fitness Center, the Sea Island Golf Learning Center, The Cloister Tennis Center with eight Har-Tru clay courts, The Cloister Beach Club, a historic shooting school, guided nature tours, water sports activities, charter yacht cruises, historical tours, beach horseback riding, teambuilding activities, scenic trails for biking and walking, and multiple restaurants and bars including the Mobil Five-Star Georgian Room restaurant.

Sea Island Resorts has earned worldwide acclaim for its distinctive meetings, and even served as site for the 30<sup>th</sup> annual G8 Summit hosted by President George W. Bush in 2004.

**The Lodge at Sea Island** was named one of the “Top 50 Hotels & Resorts in the U.S. and Canada” by *Travel + Leisure* magazine in 2009, “#1 Destination for Business Meetings and Golf” by *Golf Digest/USA Today* in 2008, and #1 in the U.S. for “World’s 50 Best Golf Hotels” by *Golf Digest Index* in 2008.

Honors given to **The Cloister at Sea Island** include being named #6 in the “Top 50 Resorts in the U.S. and Canada” in 2009 by *Travel + Leisure*, and selection as one of the “Best Hotels in the World” by *Travel + Leisure*.

“**Sea Island Resorts** is truly an outstanding and unique ‘gem’ that take any group program to the next level,” said David Gabri, president and CEO of ALHI. “We’re so pleased that The Cloister and The Lodge are now part of our distinctive portfolio, as they are truly extraordinary meeting options for us to share with CEO’s and planners.”

ALHI’s professional National Sales team can help planners with its diverse and distinctive portfolio of more than 125 Four- and Five-Diamond quality hotels and resorts worldwide, offering over 90,000 rooms and suites and more than 9 million square feet of meeting space. ALHI serves its dues-based membership as a reliable sales extension to planners, providing nearly 25 years of dedicated National Sales services to planners with reliable one-call, experienced national sales access. There is no cost to planners’ organizations to utilize the services of ALHI, as its members’ dues fund the organization. To see the ALHI portfolio, visit [www.alhi.com](http://www.alhi.com) .

ALHI members include extraordinary meeting and incentive resorts, incomparable city hotels, exclusive smaller hotels, golf resorts, historic and landmark properties, island destinations, resorts with spas, properties in international destinations, and hotels with gaming and entertainment.

ALHI has 16 professionally-staffed National Sales Offices to serve, with locations in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Kansas City, Louisville, New York City, North Carolina, Orange County (CA), Orlando, Philadelphia, Richmond, San Diego, Toronto and Washington, DC. Go to [www.alhi.com](http://www.alhi.com) to identify the ALHI sales professional in your area.

For more information about ALHI, or to inquire about a potential meeting at any of the ALHI member properties, contact your nearest ALHI National Sales Office, call the “ALHI Group Desk” toll-free at **866-303-ALHI (2544)**, and visit [www.alhi.com](http://www.alhi.com) .

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Note: **High-resolution photos** of ALHI member properties, including those referenced in this release, are available by contacting Karen Lamonica.