



Contact:
Elyse Cottle
ecottle@cariberoyale.com

The Venetian Room Nets Top Two Orlando Magazine Dining Awards and Chef Khalid Benghallem Inducted Into Dining Hall of Fame

May 4, 2009 (ORLANDO, FL) – The Venetian Room received first place awards for “Best Restaurant” and “Best Service” in Orlando in the May 2009 Dining Awards edition of *Orlando Magazine*. In the same issue, The Venetian Room’s Chef Khalid Benghallem was one of three individuals inducted into the Dining Hall of Fame.

Each year *Orlando Magazine’s* Annual Dining Awards recognize the very best restaurants in Orlando across a wide spectrum of cuisines. This year, The Venetian Room garnered two of the top awards, earning first place for “Best Restaurant” and “Best Service,” and placing in the top three for “Best Hotel Restaurant” and “Best Romantic Rendezvous.” The general public is invited to vote on the awards each year through paper ballot and online voting, and voting is restricted to one vote per individual.

Orlando Magazine’s Dining Hall of Fame was created to recognize those individuals who have made lasting contributions to the area’s dining scene. This year, Chef Khalid Benghallem was honored as an inductee to this prestigious group for his creativity and culinary excellence as Chef de Cuisine at The Venetian Room. Chef Benghallem has been with The Venetian Room since it’s opening in 2002. The restaurant has consistently garnered dozens of awards for its cuisine and service, including the *Zagat* rating. It has also earned the prestigious AAA Four Diamond rating for five consecutive years. Chef Benghallem has been twice recognized as one of the “Top 20 Chefs in Central Florida” by *Restaurant Forum* magazine, and one of his signature dishes, the lobster bisque, was voted by *Orlando Magazine* as “One of Orlando’s 29 Dishes You Must Try.”

The Venetian Room is located inside the Caribe Royale All-Suite Hotel & Convention Center in Orlando, Florida. The hotel features 1,218 newly renovated one-bedroom suites and 120 two-bedroom villas. Each room is elegantly appointed and ideal for families or business travelers. Located just 1.5 miles from the Walt Disney® Theme Parks, the hotel offers complimentary scheduled shuttles to those parks as well as the Downtown Disney® area.

The jointly owned and operated Caribe Royale and the adjacent Buena Vista Suites Hotel, both located in the lake Buena Vista area, 16 miles from Orlando International Airport, combine to form THE CARIBE, Orlando’s largest independently owned all-suite hotel destination.

More information about the Caribe Royale Orlando and Buena Vista Suites is available by visiting www.cariberoyale.com and www.buenavistasuites.com. The Caribe Royale and Buena Vista Suites are properties of the Sierra Land Group in Glendale, California.

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