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Starr Pass Awarded 2009 Gold Tee

Resort receives honor from Meetings & Conventions magazine

Tucson, AZ (6/4/09) – For the third straight year, *Meetings & Conventions* magazine has honored JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa with its Gold Tee Award. The resort sets the standard for luxury resorts in Southern Arizona and throughout the entire United States by continuing to garner impressive awards.

The highly respected Gold Tee Award is awarded annually to outstanding golf/meeting properties worldwide. Winners of the Gold Tee Award were nominated and selected by the readers of *Meetings & Conventions* based on their overall excellence.

Starr Pass features more than 88,000 square feet of flexible indoor and outdoor meeting and event space, including the 20,000-square-foot Arizona Ballroom and the 15,000-square-foot Tucson Ballroom. For smaller meetings, Starr Pass offers six rooms ranging in size from 850 square feet to 1,050 square feet and two boardrooms. Outside, the resort's three outdoor meeting terraces embrace the natural environment and impressive views. The resort provides in-house audio/visual services, teleconferencing and high-speed wireless internet access.

The Starr Pass Golf Club, a 27-hole Arnold Palmer Signature Golf Facility, offers stunning views of Tucson and surrounding Arizona mountain ranges. The course presents many challenges to golfers, posed by natural arroyos, dramatic elevation changes and swirling winds created by the Tucson Mountains.

In addition, the golf course achieved designation as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary through the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses in 2008. In gaining this certification, Starr Pass Golf Club has demonstrated they are maintaining a high degree of environmental quality

Starr Pass' Water Collection is also a main attraction. Lazily drift along the Starr Canyon River, brave the Monsoon Falls Water Slide, lounge by the Reflection Pools or play in the Dancing Springs. The resort's water features have quickly become one of Southern Arizona's most popular attractions.

To plan your next meeting in Tucson, JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa can be reached at (520) 792-3500 or online at www.jwmarriottstarrpass.com

About JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa

Having been named to *Travel + Leisure* World's Best Hotels Top 500 List two years running (2008, 2009), Starr Pass draws on the beauty of its mountainous location. The resort incorporates the natural desert as its landscape design theme. With 575 spacious guestrooms, 88,000 sq. ft. of meeting space, five restaurants, a 20,000 sq. ft. spa, four separate pools, a lazy river and water slide, the Audubon Certified Arnold Palmer Signature golf facility consisting of 27 holes and practice facilities and 888 underground and covered parking spaces, the resort boasts of being not only the largest resort in southern Arizona but also the only true eco-resort in Tucson. This eco theme extends to its Primo restaurant that serves only organic and jet fresh fish, its Hashani Spa, which uses natural desert plant oils and its direct access to the Tucson Mountain Park for fabulous hiking and mountain biking trails. To quote Bill Marriott, "you can build all types of amenities but it would be impossible to duplicate what Starr Pass has, the Tucson Mountain Park." The JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa is located at 3800 W. Starr Pass and can be reached directly by calling (520) 792-3500. Please visit www.jwmarriottstarrpass.com.

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