

For Immediate Release
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**The Sanctuary at Kiawah Island Golf Resort ranked
#1 U.S. Resort Hotel by *Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report*
*Hotel jumps five places in Reader Survey by Influential Travel Publication***

KIAWAH ISLAND, S.C. – Just three years after opening its oceanfront doors, The Sanctuary at Kiawah Island Golf Resort has achieved top spot in a reader survey by *Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report*.

The findings appear in the September edition of the well-respected travel newsletter, which has 25,000 affluent and well-traveled subscribers. It is the first time in 26 years of the poll's existence that a southern property has come top in the Resort Hotel category, in which The Sanctuary ranked number five last year. The Sanctuary bested other notable resort hotels like the Four Season Hualalai in Hawaii, The Cloister in Sea Island, Georgia, and the Montage Resort in Laguna Beach, California.

“We are delighted at this latest rating,” says Roger Warren, president of Kiawah Island Golf Resort. “To be considered the top resort hotel by such a sophisticated travel clientele is validation of our efforts to be the best.”

It is the second time in two weeks that The Sanctuary has claimed top spot in a reader-based survey. *Travel + Leisure Family* subscribers rated it as the number one family resort in the US and Canada in the fall issue of the publication.

Twenty-eight years ago, Andrew Harper conceived of an independent monthly publication aimed at affluent and sophisticated travelers, chiefly corporate presidents and CEOs. Thus began *Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report*. Traveling incognito and always paying his own way, he saw his idea rapidly take off. Now, Andrew Harper is recognized as the ultimate authority on luxury travel.

The Sanctuary opened in August 2004 at a cost of \$125 million, making it the most expensive hotel ever built in South Carolina. Featuring 255 rooms and suites and sitting directly along Kiawah's 10 miles of beachfront coastline, the hotel includes three restaurants, two bars, three swimming pools, a nature-based spa, a variety of retail options and 18,000 square feet of meeting space.

The *Hideaway Report* ranking is the latest in an impressive collection for Kiawah Island Golf Resort. Others include:

- Number One Tennis Resort in the World – *TennisResortsOnline.com*
- Number Two Golf Resort in America – *Travel + Leisure Golf*

- Number Two Tennis Resort in America – *TENNIS* magazine
- Number Two Island to Visit in America – *Conde Nast Traveler*
- Number Five Hotel (The Sanctuary) in US and Canada – *Travel + Leisure*
- American Automobile Association Five Diamond Award – The Sanctuary

Located along 10 miles of pristine beach just south of Charleston, SC, Kiawah Island Golf Resort is rated as the country's top golf resort by *Travel + Leisure Golf*. It includes The Sanctuary – a AAA Five Diamond-rated, 255-room hotel and spa – and 600 private villas and luxury homes. The resort has five championship golf courses, including The Ocean Course – host of the 1991 Ryder Cup, the 2007 Senior PGA and 2012 PGA championships. The resort also ranks as the number one tennis resort in the world, has nine restaurants, and features a renowned recreation and nature program. For more information, visit www.kiawahresort.com or call 800-654-2924.

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