

news release for immediate release

Charleston's French Quarter Inn Named #1 Luxury Property in USA by TripAdvisor.com(TM) *Inn is #10 in the World*

*Thursday, February 23, 2006—Charleston, SC—*TripAdvisor.com(TM) named the French Quarter Inn on the Market in historic Charleston, South Carolina the #1 luxury hotel in the USA ahead of the Sofitel New York, The Ritz-Carlton Orlando Grand Lakes and the Four Seasons Resort Maui and San Francisco. The French Quarter Inn is #10 in the world on the TripAdvisor(TM) luxury list of best hotels in the world.

TripAdvisor's(TM) 2005 Travelers' Choice Awards highlight what travelers from around the world have found to be the best hotels. TripAdvisor(TM)'s Travelers' Choice winners are uniquely "selected" by the millions of travelers who provide their real and unbiased reviews and opinions about hotels on TripAdvisor.com(TM) and across the Web. Hotels included in the luxury category are, according to TripAdvisor(TM), "The best of the best, among 4-star and 5-star properties. With both critical acclaim and rave reviews from our travelers, you can count on a sumptuous experience at these hotels." TripAdvisor(TM)'s website states they are "the largest site for unbiased travel reviews and give travelers the real story about hotels, attractions and restaurants around the world." To view TripAdvisor(TM)'s Traveler's Choice Awards go to [www.TripAdvisor.com\(TM\)](http://www.TripAdvisor.com(TM)).

What makes the French Quarter Inn #1? Read this guest's review from TripAdvisor.com(TM) and it is easy to understand why guests rated the Inn so highly,

"...my husband and I booked a two day stay for our anniversary. We were treated like visiting royalty from the moment we arrived. ...each floor has an accessible balcony where you can enjoy the sunrise or sunset with free milk & cookies or morning coffee. We did take advantage of the in room breakfast service but noted

that there were two coffee carts at either end of the hall for those who rise early. The staff does a very good job of providing personal touches. For example, after the Bellman made a reservation at a nearby restaurant for us, our dessert arrived with "Happy Anniversary" written in chocolate on the plate. A very nice touch. The turn down service is amazing. Along with locally made pecan pralines, the maid not only delivered a card with the next day's weather forecast but had filled the ice bucket! There were a lot of other touches that make this Inn special such as sweet grass fans that you can use while sitting in the lobby or patio drinking peach tea. If you want to experience the Old South, while having modern amenities - go quickly to the French Quarter Inn."

General Manager of The French Quarter Inn Bernard Visscher and his welcoming staff have crafted an inn where guests are treated as members of a much beloved family. According to Visscher, "We provide our guests with the experience they expect from a world-class hotel and the individualized service and style travelers crave. Our guests love us because of the guest services, the amenities, and the intimacy of the French Quarter Inn that caters to their comfort level. When our guests come to Charleston they make the French Quarter Inn their home away from home." On being informed of French Quarter Inn's award, Visscher said, "We are overwhelmed to have been selected as the #1 luxury hotel in the US. Since opening, January 2002, our ultimate goal has been to provide our guests unparalleled service."

Unexpected and delightful guest amenities include champagne and lady fingers at check-in, freshly baked warm cookies and milk in the evening, a French style continental breakfast served in the lobby or room, 24-hour coffee service, and all day snacks and iced tea make guests feel very well cared for. Extraordinary amenities include a pillow menu that allows guests to choose the pillow of their preference as well as a CD music library that provides a selection of music for guests. French Quarter Inn Business Suites even include

desk-top computers with high-speed Internet. In the evening, the turn down service includes waffle-weave robes as well as a signature praline on the pillow. Comforting Gilchrist and Soames soap and shampoo products are provided for guests' personal care. Every small thing that can make guests feel welcome is thoughtfully planned at the award-winning French Quarter Inn.

For more information on the 2005 TripAdvisor(TM) Travelers' Choice Awards as presented to the French Quarter Inn, contact Cheryl Smithem at (843) 225-5558, ext. 206. For more information on French Quarter Inn, click on www.fqicharleston.com.

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About the French Quarter Inn: The French Quarter Inn is a AAA Four Diamond award winning hotel located in the center of historic Charleston, South Carolina. Its distinctive features include a semi-circular stair with hand-wrought leafy balustrade and views of the steeple of St. Phillip's church as well as unusual amenities. Fifty guest suites and rooms can accommodate individual business travelers, groups or families.

Contact: Cheryl B. Smithem
Cognetix, LLC
1866 Wallenberg Blvd., Ste. B
Charleston SC 29407
843.225.5558 P
843.225.5556 F
843.696.9662 mobile
FrenchQuarterInnPR@cognetixllc.com