

Turtle Bay Resort Makes Top 5 List of Great Vacation Beaches on ABC's Good Morning America

NORTH SHORE, OAHU, HI (August 5, 2005) –Oahu's North Shore and the Turtle Bay Resort made national news on July 28 when the resort was named as one of the top five beach vacation destinations for families in the nation by ABC's travel correspondent, Emily Kaufman.

"This is incredible publicity, particularly for the North Shore, and the renovation of the Turtle Bay Resort plays an integral role in the revitalization of the entire area," said Marsha Wienert, the state tourism liaison. "We believe that our North Shore residents and employees will definitely benefit from this kind of national limelight."

Kaufman named Turtle Bay Resort as her favorite in a list of five top towns and beach resorts offering family vacations with plenty of activities for all ages. The other four are Carlsbad, California; Grand Haven on the shores of Lake Michigan; Hilton Head Island South Carolina; and The Westin St. John Resort & Villas in the Virgin Islands.

Kaufman is ABC's "Travel Mom," who regularly ranks amusement parks, destinations, events and other travel-related subjects, always from the standpoint of family travel.

Turtle Bay Resort is the second-largest employer on the North Shore, employing more than 700 people. The resort has been a mainstay of the region's economy for more than 33 years. The storied resort has hosted film stars, world leaders, international athletes, and generations of kama'aina looking for a quiet weekend in the country. Turtle Bay recently underwent a \$60 million renovation of its guestrooms, public areas and golf courses and is now consistently rated as one of the top resorts in the Asia-Pacific region.

Located on the North Shore of Oahu, the 880-acre Turtle Bay Resort recently completed \$60 million in renovations. Managed by Benchmark Hospitality International, the resort's accommodations include a 401-room hotel and The Beach Cottages at Turtle Bay Resort, 42 luxurious, beachfront cottages.

Turtle Bay Resort is a Preferred Hotels® & Resorts Worldwide property – a collection of the world's finest independent luxury hotels. This prestigious designation is reserved for accommodations offering the utmost standards in product and service and is now held by only three resort properties in Hawaii.

Benchmark Hospitality International, an independent hospitality management company based in The Woodlands (Houston), Texas, operates resorts, conference centers and hotels both domestically and internationally. For locations of Benchmark Hospitality properties and for additional information, visit Benchmark's Web site at www.BenchmarkHospitality.com.

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