



Press Release

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THE AA ACKNOWLEDGES FIRST-RATE HOTELS AND GUEST ACCOMMODATION WITH NEW AA RED STARS

The AA, celebrating one hundred years of quality and service in the hospitality industry, has announced the most recent additions in the AA Red Star awards at a glamorous black-tie ceremony, hosted by celebrity chef James Martin, at London's Grosvenor House Hotel on 2nd September.

Attended by some of the world's most renowned chefs, prominent hoteliers and hospitality gurus, the AA Centenary Awards recognise and reward the excellent services provided by the UK's very best establishments, honouring the finest AA-inspected and rated hotels, restaurants and pubs throughout the UK. Due to the exceptional standard of hotels and guest accommodation experienced by AA inspectors, 17 hotels in the British Isles have been acknowledged with AA Red Stars. These prestigious accolades are awarded to selected hotels that stand out as the very best in the British Isles, offering outstanding levels of quality, comfort, cleanliness and customer care.

This year five renowned AA five rosette chefs – Tom Aikens, Raymond Blanc, David Nicholls, Chris Staines and Marcus Wareing – in conjunction with the Grosvenor House kitchen team, cooked for the one thousand attendees, each chef taking responsibility for one element of the gourmet menu.

The Stafford in London, **The Longueville Manor Hotel** in Jersey, and the **Four Seasons Hotel** in Hampshire, all achieved the highest honour, five AA Red Stars. The

Stafford is one of the few London hotels to achieve AA Red Star status, quietly boasting the feel of a luxury country house just minutes from the bustle of Mayfair and Piccadilly. Regarded as Jersey's best country house hotel, The Longueville Manor Hotel has developed a great reputation amongst customers and leading travel critics. Continuing the standards and quality of the esteemed Four Seasons group, the Four Seasons Hotel Hampshire is an elegant Georgian manor house that boasts ultra-modern comforts within acres of rolling countryside.

The **four AA Red Stars** winners for 2008 are:

- **Macdonald Compleat Angler**, Buckinghamshire
- **Cotswold House**, Gloucestershire
- **Lords of the Manor**, Gloucestershire
- **Nunsmere Hall**, Cheshire
- **Langshott Manor**, Surrey
- **Torridon**, Highlands
- **Jesmond Dene**, Tyne & Wear
- **The Levin**, London

The **three AA Red Stars** winners for 2008 are:

- **Whitley Ridge Hotel**, Hampshire
- **Penmaenuchaf Hall**, Gwynedd
- **The Glenmorangie Highland Home at Cadboll**, Highlands
- **The Bildeston Crown**, Suffolk

The **two AA Red Stars** winners for 2008 are:

- **New Inn at Coln**, Gloucestershire
- **Cavens**, Dumfries & Galloway

AA Hotel Services Manager Simon Numphud said: "Our AA inspectors have searched for the very best hotels in the British Isles, and this year's winners of the AA Red Star awards have demonstrated excellent levels of service, customer care and quality throughout the establishments."

Other AA Centenary Award winners were:

AA Lifetime Achievement Award – **Rick Stein**

AA Chef's Chef of the Year Award - **Philip Howard of The Square and Ledbury**
AA Hotel Group of the Year - **QHotels**
AA Small Hotel Group of the Year – **Hotel Du Vin**
AA Hotel of the Year, England - **Jesmond Dene, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, Tyne & Wear**
AA Hotel of the Year, Scotland - **Norton House Hotel, Edinburgh**
AA Hotel of the Year, Wales - **Lake Country House Hotel & Spa, Llangammarch**
AA Restaurant of the Year, England - **The Royal Oak, Maidenhead, Berkshire**
AA Restaurant of the Year, Scotland – **The Kitchin, Edinburgh**
AA Restaurant of the Year, Wales – **The Walnut Tree, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire**
AA Restaurant of the Year, London – **Scott's Restaurant, London**
AA Pub of the Year, England - **The Queens Arms, Corton Denham, Somerset**
AA Pub of the Year, Scotland – **The Torridon Inn, Torridon**
AA Pub of the Year, Wales - **The Bush Inn, St Hilary**
AA Wine Award, England - **Ransome's Dock, London**
AA Wine Award, Scotland - **Gleneagles - Strathearn restaurant, Auchterarder**
AA Wine Award, Wales - **Crown at Whitebrook, Whitebrook**
AA & Best Practice Forum Business Excellence Award - **Gatton Manor, Ockley**

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For further information visit, www.AAHospitalityAwards.com

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Notes to Editors:

The AA has been inspecting and rewarding hotels since 1908, and is proud to offer one of the UK's leading recognition schemes in the hospitality industry. The knowledge and experience of the AA's inspectorate is unrivalled with recognition schemes covering not only hotels but also guest accommodation, caravan & camping, restaurants, golf courses and pubs. Every year, the AA presents a range of awards to the finest AA-inspected and rated hotels, B&Bs, restaurants and pubs from England, Scotland and Wales.