Florida's Grand Beach Resorts, Exhibit Brochure

2010

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Exhibit Designed by:

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♦ Photos courtesy of Florida Memory, a project of the State Library and Archives of Florida, which can be accessed at http://www.floridamemory.com

A look at some of Florida’s Most Famous and Historic Beach Hotels and Resorts

On display for Summer 2010
Since the 1880’s, Florida’s beach resorts have dazzled international travelers. Pioneering hotel and railroad entrepreneurs Henry Flagler and Henry Plant, who were often in competition with each other for the tourist dollar, built some of the first and architecturally finest beach resorts in the world. Many of these resorts are now National Historic Landmarks and continue to operate as resorts today.

A small sampling of Florida’s most famous and historic beach resorts includes:

- **The Ponce De Leon**
  St. Augustine, established 1887
  Henry Flagler built, now Flagler College

- **Tampa Bay Hotel**
  Tampa, established 1891
  Henry Plant built, now the University of Tampa and the Henry B. Plant Museum

- **Royal Poinciana Hotel**
  Palm Beach, established 1894 by Flagler
  Expanded and rebuilt into The Breakers

- **Hotel Bellevue**
  Clearwater, established 1896 by Plant
  Now the Bellevue Biltmore Resort

- **Royal Palm Hotel**
  Miami, established 1897 by Flagler
  Destroyed in the 1926 Miami Hurricane

- **The Biltmore**
  Coral Gables, established 1924
  Still operated by Seaway Hotels Corp.

- **The Breakers Hotel**
  Palm Beach, established 1925 by Flagler
  Served as a Veterans hospital during WWII
  Golf resort and spa still in operation today

- **The Don CeSar**
  St. Petersburg Beach, established 1928
  Served as a Veterans hospital during WWII;
  Owned and operated today by Loews

- **Long Beach Resort**
  Panama City Beach, established 1936
  Operated by the Resort Collection

- **DiLido Hotel**
  South Beach Miami, established 1953
  Now operated as the Ritz-Carlton South Beach

All photos, including the background Photo of The Biltmore in Coral Gables, courtesy of http://www.floridamemory.com

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**Recommended Reading:**


