



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FEARRINGTON AMONG 5 CAROLINA PROPERTIES TO RECEIVE  
2017 AAA FIVE DIAMOND DISTINCTION**

Fearrington Village, NC – AAA Carolinas announced the Five Diamond award winners, including three hotels and two restaurants in North Carolina, and two hotels in South Carolina. The Fearrington House Inn and The Fearrington House Restaurant were among the winners for the state. 2017 marks more than 20 consecutive years of awards for both The Fearrington House Restaurant and Inn.

Fellow Relais & Chateaux property, The Umstead Hotel & Spa in Cary, N.C. also received AAA Five Diamond distinction for the tenth consecutive year. The Fearrington team extends its congratulations to the other winners for their excellence and distinction among restaurants and hotels in the state.

The Five Diamond rating is the top designation awarded each year by AAA to an elite group of qualified hotels and restaurants after an anonymous overnight visit or dining experience by fulltime specially trained inspectors. Only 0.25 percent of the nearly 31,000 AAA Approved and Diamond Rated hotels results in a Five Diamond rating.

North Carolina winners, with the number of years won, are:

- Herons Restaurant (6 years) in Cary
- The Ritz-Carlton, Charlotte (7 years) in Charlotte
- The Umstead Hotel & Spa (10 years) in Cary
- The Fearrington House Inn (23 years) in Pittsboro
- The Fearrington House Restaurant (22 years) in Pittsboro

South Carolina winners, with the number of years won, are:

- The Inn at Palmetto Bluff (6 years) in Bluffton



**THE FEARRINGTON HOUSE**  
INN · RESTAURANT · SPA



- The Sanctuary at Kiawah Island Golf Resort (11 years)

“AAA Five Diamond lodgings and hotels offer the highest level of hospitality in the most luxurious surroundings,” said David E. Parsons, president and CEO of AAA Carolinas.

“These properties are unique, enticing and extraordinary – complemented by an extensive array of personalized services that consistently exceed the expectations of even the most refined traveler.”

Lodgings include eight different classifications, such as bed and breakfast, hotel, cottage and country inn with four sub-classifications such as historic, classic, resort and casino. Restaurants include more than 100 categories based on cuisine and ambiance. Each restaurant and lodging that receives any level of diamond rating from AAA is listed in AAA’s TourBooks, which are distributed for free to any of the organization’s 53 million members nationwide.

#### **About The Fearrington House**

The Fearrington House is a member of Relais & Chateaux, an association of the finest hotels and restaurants in the world. The 32-room Inn features exquisitely decorated rooms and stunning garden views. The Restaurant serves locally sourced European cuisine with a regional influence. The Fearrington House Restaurant opened in 1980, followed by the Inn in 1987, and the Spa in 2010. Fearrington House is located eight miles south of Chapel Hill and 20 miles west of the Raleigh/Durham Airport. For more information, visit [www.fearrington.com](http://www.fearrington.com).

#### **About AAA Carolinas**

AAA Carolinas, an affiliate of the American Automobile Association, is a not-for-profit organization that serves more than 1.9 million members and the public with travel, automobile and insurance services while being an advocate for the safety and security of all travelers. Connect with AAA Carolinas on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/AAACarolinas](https://www.facebook.com/AAACarolinas) and follow us on Twitter at @AAACarolinas.