

Westin earns Four Diamonds

AAA recognizes property's 'overall upscale experience'

By Lee Roop

Times Staff Writer
lee.roop@htimes.com

The Westin Huntsville in Bridge Street Town Centre became Huntsville's first AAA Four Diamond Award hotel Tuesday.

The 210-room property earned the recognition "through its quality of service, standards, rooms, and physical property," said Al Gibbs, vice president and general manager of AAA Alabama.

Gibbs said the Westin is Alabama's sixth Four Diamond hotel, joining such properties as the Marriott Grand Hotel at Point Clear, the Renaissance Ross Bridge Golf Resort

and Spa in Birmingham and the Marriott Shoals Hotel and Spa in Muscle Shoals.

Reviewers stay in hotels anonymously and rate them on variety of scales, Gibbs said. Diamond ratings are independently given each year, he said.

"You cannot buy your way into a AAA award," Gibbs said.

A Four Diamond hotel is distinguished by a variety of amenities, including 24-hour room service, a nice location, a quality restaurant on site and "an overall upscale experience," Gibbs said.

Westin General Manager Danny Hiatt credited his 174 staff members for working hard to create "a flawless experience" for guests at the hotel and spa that opened in April 2008.

"Only 4 percent of hotels get this," Hiatt said. "This is an outstanding achievement for our employees."



Bob Gathany/The Huntsville Times

The Westin Huntsville in Bridge Street Town Centre has received the AAA Four Diamond Award for "its quality of service, standards" and more.