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NEWS

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Arizona Biltmore Highlights Its 80th Season of Gracious Afternoon Tea with Special Themes

PHOENIX, Arizona, (DATE), 2009 – The celebrated 200-year-old English pastime of Afternoon Tea has been a cherished tradition at the Arizona Biltmore since its opening in 1929. And in November the legendary *Jewel of the Desert* will launch its 80th season of Afternoon Tea featuring special monthly themes.

Among the themed Afternoon Teas will be a Holiday Tea throughout December, a Chocolate Tea throughout February in celebration of Valentine’s Day, and a Mother’s Day Tea during May. Starting November 12, 2009 and continuing through May 16, 2010, Afternoon Tea will be served Thursday through Sunday from 2:30-4:30 p.m. in the Tea Lounge. Biltmore Grand Tea is \$36 per person, and Biltmore Royal Tea with Kir Royal is \$46. Tax and gratuity are additional. **Reservations are recommended. Please call 602-381-7632.**

“Our Afternoon Tea at the Arizona Biltmore is an enduring tradition that takes guests back to a more gracious and genteel time,” said General Manager Andrew Stegen. “But we also keep it current and stylish by creating innovative new menus each year with the latest sandwiches, desserts and teas.”

The tradition of Afternoon Tea dates back to 19th-century England. When the royal court learned about Duchess Anne of Bedford’s secret afternoon indulgence of tea, bread, butter and little cakes, Afternoon Tea was born. In keeping with this royal tradition, Afternoon Tea at the Arizona Biltmore is actually a light meal with an eclectic menu of Tea Sandwiches, pastries and sweets including freshly baked scones, and an array of teas and herbal infusions.

The Arizona Biltmore has been an Arizona landmark since opening in 1929, when it was crowned the “*Jewel of the Desert.*” The legendary *Grand Dame* remains one of the most recognized resorts in the world for its distinctive Frank Lloyd Wright architecture, luxurious facilities, and storied history as a playground of the rich and famous. Nestled on 39 acres at the foot of the Phoenix Mountain Preserve, the legendary resort offers: 738 guest accommodations; full-service Spa, Salon and Fitness Center; two 18-hole golf courses; six restaurants and lounges including Wright’s at The Biltmore serving signature American Lodge Cuisine, and Arizona comfort food in Frank & Alberts; and eight swimming pools including the Paradise Pool for the ultimate in summer family fun. The Arizona Biltmore is managed by Hilton Hotels and is a member of Hilton’s exclusive Waldorf=Astoria Collection®. For information and reservations: 800-950-0086, or log on to <http://www.arizonabiltmore.com>

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