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by Kelly Potts

Two iconic resorts in the Valley are shining brighter. The travel source, which evaluates more than 58,000 lodging properties and restaurants each year, recently bestowed The Camby, in Phoenix, and Hermosa Inn, in Paradise Valley, with its Four Diamond Award. "Attaining the Four Diamond Rating is an impressive accomplishment and point of pride for these hotels," said Michelle Donati, communications manager for AAA Arizona. The Camby and Hermosa Inn will be honored by AAA Arizona at the 2017 Four and Five Diamond celebration in late fall.

The Camby, one of the newest luxury offerings in the Valley quickly made its way to the AAA Diamonds list after opening in late 2015. "We are immensely proud of The Camby's AAA Four Diamond recognition in our first year open as a hotel," said Greg Miller, chief inspiration officer of The Camby. "This achievement acknowledges the dedication our team has to provide the best quality service to our guests and we are extremely honored to receive this award from such a notable organization." AAA's inspector noted the following about The Camby: Catering to both business and leisure travelers, this playful, trendy and upscale property has impressive guest rooms, a lively lobby bar and a fun—yet relaxing—rooftop pool. While roaming the grounds and the hotel, be sure to look for all the whimsical and quirky touches.

Hermosa Inn joins LON's at the Hermosa on the prestigious Four Diamond list. LON's at the Hermosa has been a Four Diamond restaurant for 11 years. "This honorable recognition comes at a very exciting time as we near completion of one of the biggest renovations in our 80-year history," said Stephen Ast, The Hermosa Inn's managing director. "We have truly taken the property to next level of luxury and look forward to sharing this Four Diamond experience with our guests." AAA's inspector noted the following about Hermosa Inn: This historic home of cowboy artist Lon Megargee offers a variety of intimate guest rooms housed in different buildings scattered throughout the beautifully landscaped grounds.

AAA has been inspecting and approving lodgings for nearly 80 years. The One to Five Diamond rating system is the only system that covers the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean. AAA Five Diamond properties represent just 0.4 percent of the more than 58,000 AAA/CAA Approved and Diamond-rated hotels and restaurants. Candidates for the rating undergo multiple unannounced evaluations and a final decision by a panel of experts. Inspectors meticulously evaluate guest services and physical attributes, closely examining the level of competence, refinement and hospitality, from reservations to checkout for hotels and from seating to presentation for restaurants. AAA's <u>chart of lodging</u> and restaurant criteria are available online. A complete list of Arizona Four and Five Diamond properties is available at <u>az.aaa.com/diamonds</u>.

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1 / 1