

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TRAVEL + LEISURE'S 2009 **AMERICA'S FAVORITE CITIES SURVEY KICKS OFF TODAY**

Voting Begins on TravelandLeisure.com to Find Out How Travelers Rate Top Cities

How Will You Vote?

New York, NY (June 1, 2009) – *Travel + Leisure* magazine's annual **America's Favorite Cities** survey is live on TravelandLeisure.com from now until July 31 at 12 p.m. EST. Participants can rate 30 U.S. cities, including Cleveland, Houston, Kansas City, Providence, and St. Louis -- cities that did not appear on last year's survey of 25 cities. Voters can rank urban destinations in a number of categories, including culture, shopping, dining, attractiveness of the people, and for the first time this year, hotels and local airports.

The 2009 survey results will be revealed on TravelandLeisure.com on October 6, and will be featured in the November issue of *Travel + Leisure*, on newsstands October 16.

Visitors who vote for America's Favorite Cities can also enter for a chance to win a \$25,000 "Trip of a Lifetime".

How will this year's survey results stack up against last year's winners? According to the America's Favorite Cities 2008 survey, here's how several cities fared in select categories:

- + **Austin:** Took second for friendliness and athleticism, and third for intelligence and attractiveness.
- + **Honolulu:** Voted No. 1 for a romantic escape, a relaxing retreat, and an active/adventure vacation.
- + **New York:** Top destination for shopping; classical music and theater; stylish and diverse residents; people watching; and skylines and views. Ranked last for peace and quiet and affordability.
- + **Portland, Oregon:** Grabbed first place for public transportation and pedestrian friendliness, safety, cleanliness, public parks, and environmental awareness.
- + **San Francisco:** High marks for its notable neighborhoods, local boutiques, specialty stores and farmer's markets, cafés and coffee shops, and destination restaurants.
- + **Santa Fe:** The top finisher for peace and quiet, and has great art gallery shopping and local boutiques.

To view results from the 2008 America's Favorite Cities survey, visit www.travelandleisure.com/afc/2008.

The 30 cities included in the 2009 survey are: Atlanta; Austin; Boston; Charleston; Chicago; Cleveland; Dallas/Fort Worth; Denver; Honolulu; Houston; Kansas City; Las

Vegas; Los Angeles; Miami; Minneapolis/St. Paul; Nashville; New Orleans; New York; Orlando; Philadelphia; Phoenix/Scottsdale; Portland, Oregon; Providence; San Antonio; San Diego; San Francisco; Santa Fe; Seattle; St. Louis; and Washington, D.C.

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