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SMOOTH MEETINGS IN PUERTO RICO HAVE NEVER BEEN MORE ENTICING WITH GREAT MEETING VALUES FOR GROUPS

SAN JUAN, February 17, 2009 – As corporate America looks to carry on business as usual in these challenging economic times, meeting planners are finding themselves tasked with an evermore stringent eye on the bottom line. To help smooth out company meeting and other conference expenditures, several of Puerto Rico’s top brand-name hotels and resorts are offering valuable booking incentives to groups of ten or more attendees.

Room rates, A/V equipment, dining and meeting space are just some of the value-priced elements being offered by top hotel names such as Holiday Inn, Sheraton and Small Luxury Hotels of the World – all with the aim of helping planners put together a smooth, yet cost-conscious program on the Island.

Following is a listing of several available group booking incentives that are currently available to groups. Meeting planners can learn more about these special deals, as well as discuss other ways to save by contacting one of the meetings specialists at the Puerto Rico Convention Bureau at 1-800-875-4765 or by visiting www.meetpuertorico.com.

- Puerto Rico’s Four Points properties, the **Four Points at Palmas del Mar** and the **Four Points at Caguas Real** are currently offering a special “Executive Package.” Starting at \$39 per person (excluding taxes and gratuity), the package includes meeting space for the group, continental breakfast, lunch and coffee break, along with a podium, notepads, pen and bottled water. Guest room bookings are additional. For more information, call 1-866-612-2323 or visit www.fourpointspr.com.
- The **Holiday Inn San Juan** offers several group booking incentives for planners. Upon signing a contract for a group, the property guarantees the same rates for the following year. In addition, groups staying at the property to attend events at the Puerto Rico Convention Center may be eligible to receive complimentary ground transfers to and from the Center. In addition, all meeting attendees receive a certificate inviting them to return to the property within a year at the group rate. For more information about these offers, call 787-625-9030 or visit www.hisanjuan.com.

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Great Meeting Values in Puerto Rico.../2

- For groups hosting a meeting before April 30, 2009, **Hotel El Convento** is offering a meeting package starting at \$195 per room per night. As part of the package, planners can enjoy one complimentary meeting room per day, two staff rooms at a 30 percent discount, one VIP upgrade and a complimentary room for every 35 rooms booked. In addition, groups will enjoy complimentary wireless Internet, a 24 hour coffee and tea concession, a daily wine reception and a one-hour welcome or farewell cocktail reception. A discount on a group dinner at select hotel restaurants and a 10 percent discount at the Eden Spa are also available. A minimum booking of 10 rooms is required. The package is also available for groups meeting between May 1 and November 30, 2009 starting at \$145 per room per night. Restrictions apply. For more information about this special offer, call 787-723-9020 ext. 231 or visit www.elconvento.com.
- For just \$39 per person (excluding gratuity and taxes), **The Sheraton Old San Juan** offers meeting space, breakfast, coffee break and lunch for all attendees in elegantly appointed meeting rooms. Guest rooms are booked separately and the Sheraton Old San Juan's on-site meeting specialists will assist planners with details for A-V equipment, room bookings and other program needs, with no black-out dates. For more information about this special offer, call the property directly at 787-289-1942 or visit www.sheratonoldsanjuan.com.
- At the **Sheraton Puerto Rico Convention Center Hotel & Casino**, meeting planners can take advantage of pre-opening booking incentives that includes a 10 percent discount on food and beverage costs (based on published rates), a 20 percent discount on A/V (based on published rates) and 3 percent off guest room charges on master bill. Planners may also receive up to 100,000 Starpoints as part of the Starwood Preferred Planner program upon booking. To take advantage of this offer, bookings must be made by 3/31/09 for arrivals no later than 12/31/10. For more information, call (787) 993-3500 or visit www.sheraton.com.
- At the **Rio Mar Beach Resort: A Wyndham Grand Resort**, groups arriving before March 31, 2009 may qualify for a discount of up to 10 percent off the group master account. Groups must book 10 or more guest rooms per night, other restrictions may apply. For more information about this offer, call 1-800-4-RIO-MAR or visit www.wyndhamriomar.com.

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Editor's Note:

The Puerto Rico Convention Bureau (PRCB) is a non-profit organization established in 1962 to drive meetings, conventions, trade shows and incentive groups to Puerto Rico. With offices in San Juan, Chicago, New York, Miami, and Washington DC, the Bureau strengthens Puerto Rico's competitive position in the Americas and abroad by increasing awareness of the Island's outstanding meeting facilities and services, and produces approximately \$118 million to the local economy. The Bureau can be reached electronically through the Internet at info@meetpuertorico.org or at its website www.meetpuertorico.com. The PRCB is the official marketing and sales agent for the new Puerto Rico Convention Center (PRCC) opened November 2005. For more information on the new Convention Center visit www.prconvention.com. The Puerto Rico Convention Bureau, representing the capital city of San Juan, is a proud member of Best Cities Global Alliance, the first convention bureau alliance that represents the highest standards of service in the meetings and convention industry. For more information, visit www.bestcities.net. The Puerto Rico Convention Bureau has also been awarded accreditation from the Destination Marketing Association International as an elite destination marketing organization. DMAI is the world's largest association of CVBs, representing more than 600 destination management organizations in more than 25 countries.

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