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JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge Resort & Spa Amps Up Internet Capabilities for its 240,000 Square Feet of Meeting and Conference Facilities

PHOENIX -- <u>JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge Resort & Spa</u>, home to Arizona's largest resort meeting and conference space, has upgraded its cyber infrastructure for groups, allowing for 5,300 concurrent users.

The 950-room luxurious resort is celebrating the newly installed one-gigabyte meeting space infrastructure by offering complimentary meeting room <u>Internet for</u> <u>groups</u> of 100 rooms minimum on peak nights booked by June 1 for stays in 2013.

The resort is an alluring destination for business and pleasure, featuring Arizona's largest ballroom, the pillar-free <u>Grand Canyon Ballroom</u>, patio rooms with spectacular views, elevated amenities of the JW Griffin Club, two championship golf courses at Wildfire Golf Club, two-story Revive Spa, 4 acres of pools and a cornucopia of dining experiences.

Upon arrival, guests are dazzled by the tumbled marble lobby and sight of stunning floor-to-ceiling windows spilling out onto sparkling waterways and majestic palm-lined pathways.

Elegant and flexible meeting space on the resort's ground level with easy access to a circular drive includes the Grand Canyon Ballroom (33,218 square feet), Grand Sonoran Ballroom (25,992 square feet) and Grand Saguaro (24,420 square feet) including 15,000 square feet of scenic outdoor space at the Sunset Lawn. All three can be divided for smaller meetings. The resort's fourth ballroom, the 5,300-square-foot Wildflower Ballroom, is ideal for special events and celebrations.

The three Pinnacle Conference rooms (1,335 square feet each) and eight Desert Conference Suites (1,038 square feet each) offer smaller spaces for breakout sessions. For exclusive VIP meetings, the Chairman's Board Room and President's Board Room (729 square feet each) offer the perfect setting. The resort offers three separate built-in registration desks in an impressive 17,000-square-foot foyer.

The resort offers more than 100,000 square feet of lushly landscaped outdoor venues. The resort's Botanical Garden and expansive Ballroom Lawn are surrounded by blossoming wildflowers and colorful flora. Tierra Madre and the Desert Kivas are additional picturesque setting for outdoor events. For a setting beyond compare, the resort's outdoor Isle of Capri and Isle Del Sol give groups spectacular vistas in every direction.

Corporate travelers will appreciate the onsite Fed-Ex Kinko's, conveniently located near the resort's conference space.

Guest rooms overlook wildflower gardens, swimming pools, lakes, waterways and offer golf course or mountain views. Included in the 950 rooms are four presidential suites, four hospitality suites, 35 luxury suites and 38 executive suites offering a variety of options for groups large and small.

JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa recently commemorated its 10th anniversary and during the last decade has earned repeatedly the coveted AAA Four Diamond Award, as well as top travel ratings from <u>Meetings & Conventions</u>, Corporate & Incentive Travel, Association Meetings, Condé Nast Traveler, Travel + Leisure and many more.

Water flows throughout JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa, from spectacular swimming pools to wandering waterways that weave through the colorful grounds. The

main pool features a free standing, immense waterfall crowned by flames which dance against the night sky. Families and free spirits alike enjoy floating along the resort's Lazy River in this lush desert oasis.

From fine dining surrounded by romantic fire pits to casual poolside cuisine, every palate is satisfied at JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa. Among the notable eateries is Roy's Restaurant, Roy Yamaguchi's Hawaiian Fusion Cuisine; Tuscany features authentic Italian comfort cuisine including handcrafted pastas and specialty pizzas; Blue Sage headlines the resort's all-day dining with contemporary favorites and regional specialties including gourmet sandwiches on the go from its Blue Sage Marketplace; Meritage Steakhouse at Wildfire Golf Club features bold wines and prime aged steaks for lunch and dinner; healthy cuisine featuring organic ingredients can be enjoyed at the resort's Spa Bistro; while coffee lovers perk up at the resort's Starbucks.

Vista Lounge, with its magnificent floor-to-ceiling views, has indoor and outdoor patio seating with charming fire pits – the perfect spot to sip a martini and enjoy fresh sushi while taking in the spectacular vistas of the McDowell Mountains.

Panoramic views of the crimson-hued mountains, fiery Arizona sunsets and the picturesque, cactus-studded Sonoran desert add to the resort's desirability for meetings, conferences, weddings and special events of all sizes.

The largest luxury resort in Arizona features 950 guestrooms (including 81 suites), 240,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting space, 10 dining experiences, Marriott's first Revive Spa -- a 28,000-square-foot facility -- eight tennis courts and four acres of elaborately landscaped pools including the Lazy River with serpentine slide, two championship golf courses and Wildfire Golf Club. JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa is where Phoenix meets Scottsdale, just 20 minutes north of Sky Harbor International Airport, with easy access to the Loop 101 freeway.

For information about JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa at 5350 E. Marriott Drive in Phoenix, call 1-800-835-6206 or visit www.jwdesertridgeresort.com.