



News

For immediate release: December 29, 2010

The Raphael Hotel named one of world's 500 best hotels by *Travel + Leisure* magazine

Travel+Leisure magazine's annual **T+L 500** list of the world's 500 best hotels includes The Raphael, Kansas City's historic boutique hotel. The renowned international travel magazine made the announcement in its January, 2011 issue (online @ <http://www.travelandleisure.com/tl500/2011/region/us>). The listing is based on reader-rated surveys of hotels, resorts, casinos, inns and lodges with follow-up by *Travel+Leisure's* international team of editors and reporters. The Raphael is the only Kansas City hotel to make the **T+L 500** list and one of only three hotels in the five-state region listed.

The Raphael's listing is enhanced by *Travel+Leisure's* \$ icon, identifying it as one of the 62 **T+L 500** hotels offering room rates of less than \$250 per night. At published rates from \$169, only four World's Best hotels offer lower starting rates – one in Germany and three Las Vegas casino hotels with rates from \$159.

The Raphael's 88.80 rating also placed it among the top 100 North American lodging establishments — above other famous historic properties such as The Hay-Adams in Washington, D.C., The Drake in Chicago and Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. "Recognition by a magazine of *Travel+Leisure's* stature validates our owner's commitment to preserve The Raphael's heritage and the outstanding efforts of a truly exceptional staff," said Steve Miller, the hotel's director of operations. "We are both humbled and challenged by the honor."

The Raphael is owned and operated by Lighthouse Properties, a privately held company based in Salina, Kansas. The hotel is a new member of Marriott's Autograph Collection, a carefully selected ensemble of distinctive independent hotels. The property is also a member of National Trust Historic Hotels of America and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

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