



## In awards season, Kansas City's landmark Plaza hotel is golden

Historic Raphael Hotel named Four-Star hotel by Forbes Travel Guide and named to Travel+Leisure T+L 500 Best Hotels in the World

**February 11, 2015 – Kansas City, MO –** Forbes Travel Guide today unveiled its 57<sup>th</sup> annual listing of Star Award-winning hotels, restaurants and spas worldwide, and named The Raphael a Four Star property. It is the third consecutive year the Country Club Plaza hotel has received the honor. The Raphael is the only Kansas City hotel recognized in the 2015 Forbes Travel Guide. Forbes also rated the hotel's signature restaurant, Chaz on the Plaza, as one of Kansas City's best restaurants by awarding it a Recommended Rating.

Steve Miller, Lighthouse Properties director of operations, says the rating is an important achievement for the hotel. "Forbes has a more than 50-year tradition of guiding travelers to the best places to stay or dine. Being recognized as one of those places by such an authoritative publication demonstrates our commitment to operating a best in class hotel and it speaks well for the excellent team we have in Kansas City. We also expect it will be a boost for the hotel's business travel segment."

**About The Raphael Hotel:** Readers of *Travel+Leisure* magazine voted <u>The Raphael</u> to the prestigious 2015 **T+L 500 World's Best Hotels** list. The Raphael is the original boutique concept among historic <u>Kansas City Plaza hotels</u>. The nine-story, Italian Renaissance Revival structure is a member of National Trust Historic Hotels of America and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. TripAdvisor reviewers rank The Raphael as Kansas City's top hotel and <u>Chaz on the Plaza</u> one of Kansas City's best restaurants for modern American cuisine. The landmark hotel and its signature restaurant are affiliated with the Autograph Collection, a portfolio of independent hotels selected by Marriott International for their distinctiveness.

**About Forbes Travel Guide:** Forbes Travel Guide, formerly Mobil Travel Guide and originator of the prestigious Five Star ratings and certifications, has provided the travel industry's most comprehensive ratings and reviews of hotels, restaurants and spas since 1958. Forbes Travel Guide has a team of expert inspectors who anonymously evaluate properties against rigorous and objective standards, providing consumers the insight to make better-informed travel and leisure decisions. Information gathered from the inspectors' visits is available <u>online</u> along with content curated by hospitality experts, tastemakers, Forbes Travel Guide editors and correspondents.

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