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Brentwood lodge named BC best

By Christine van Reeuwijk - Peninsula News Review

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Expedia Insiders' Select adds to the accolades

The Peninsula's only four-diamond hotel is officially BC's best, according to Expedia. The Brentwood Bay Lodge and Spa officially received their four diamond status from AAA hot on the heels of topping the Expedia Insiders' Select 2008 list.

Insider Select hotels are chosen from more than 80,000 hotels and resorts worldwide. Along with being best in BC, Brentwood Bay Lodge and Spa was named sixth best hotel in Canada, and 103rd in the world.

"That was out of 80,000 hotels worldwide," said owner Dan Behune. "I've had people from all over the world send me emails of congratulations."

The Expedia Insiders' Select 2008 is a list of the top one per cent of all hotels and resorts rated by Expedia and its customers. That means a site visit and inspection as well as looking at the reviews submitted by Expedia clientele in search of a certain level of standards and quality. It likely helps that Brentwood Bay Lodge and Spa is set on the Saanich Inlet, offering amazing sunrises, sunsets and wildlife viewing. The proximity to Victoria, as well as Peninsula wineries and world-renowned Butchart Gardens can't hurt.

Though the market is difficult in general in the hotel industry, with studies showing fewer visitors coming up from the US, Brentwood Lodge is going strong.

"We're lucky because our market is high end," Behune said. Many guests fly in to the nearby Victoria International Airport or slip in by boat. The high end corporate retreat business has been a boon as well, with many companies from Victoria, Vancouver and even Alberta taking advantage of the facilities offered by the Central Saanich hotel.

High resolution images may be downloaded from the media image bank on our website.

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