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KIMPTON NAMED INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LEADER BY *TRAVEL + LEISURE* *Boutique Hotel Company Earns 2011 Global Vision Award*

SAN FRANCISCO, October XX, 2011 – Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, the leading and largest collection of more than 50 boutique hotels and restaurants throughout the country, today announced its honor of the [“Global Vision Award”](#) from *Travel + Leisure* magazine, which published in the November 2011 issue. Praised for its “rigorous environmental standards,” Kimpton garnered the Leadership award in Corporate Greening for its EarthCare initiatives, which include more than 100 eco practices and procedures at 51 hotels and restaurants nationwide. For 30 years, Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants has supported a sustainable world and defined responsible hospitality by using non-intrusive, high quality, eco-friendly products and services that have become today’s industry standards.

“Care for the environment and our communities is at the heart of how we do business and has been for the last 30 years,” said Niki Leondakis, President and COO, Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants. “That is what makes this honor such a meaningful achievement for all of us at Kimpton.”

Travel + Leisure’s Global Vision Award winners were chosen by a panel of esteemed judges including: José Andrés, Chef and Owner of ThinkFoodGroup; Bonnie Burnham, President and CEO of the World Monuments Fund; Lauren Bush, CEO of FEED Projects and Chairman of the Board for the FEED Foundation; Megan Epler Wood, Executive Director of the Planeterra Foundation and Founder of the International Ecotourism Society; Premal Shah, President of

microfinance website kiva.org; Dr. Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel Prize–winning Economist and Co-chair of Columbia University’s Committee on Global Thought; and Kate Stohr and Cameron Sinclair, Founders of the nonprofit design collective Architecture for Humanity.

Kimpton’s sustainable initiatives date back to the company’s inception in 1981 and include many industry firsts. In its 30 years, Kimpton’s pioneering practices have transformed into a comprehensive EarthCare program that includes the use of non-toxic cleaners, energy efficient lighting, low-flow plumbing, in-room recycling bins and more. Eco practices continue to be developed and tested by a volunteer committee of Kimpton employees at every hotel and restaurant, who proudly bear the honorary title of Eco Champions. Kimpton is dedicated to making a positive social and environmental difference in its local communities.

To learn more about EarthCare practices at Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, please visit www.KimptonHotels.com, www.Twitter.com/Kimpton, www.Facebook.com/Kimpton or www.LifeisSuite.com.

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ABOUT KIMPTON HOTELS & RESTAURANTS

San Francisco-based Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, a collection of boutique hotels and chef-driven restaurants in the US, is an acknowledged industry pioneer and was the first to bring the boutique hotel concept to America. Celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2011, Bill Kimpton founded the company in 1981 and today it is well-known for making travelers feel welcomed and comfortable while away from home through intuitive and unscripted customer care, stylish ambience and having a certain playfulness in its approach to programs and amenities. Adjacent to the hotels are locally-loved, top-rated, destination Kimpton restaurants. Kimpton leads the hospitality industry in ecological practices through its innovative EarthCare program that spans all hotels and restaurants. Market Metrix, a recognized authority and leader in feedback solutions, consistently ranks Kimpton above other hotel companies in luxury and upper upscale segments for customer satisfaction. Privately held Kimpton operates 51 hotels and 56 restaurants in 23 cities. For more information visit www.KimptonHotels.com or call 1-800-KIMPTON.