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For Immediate Release

## **WOMEN TEE OFF AT GRANDE LAKES ORLANDO**

*New Girlfriends Golf & Spa Package at The Ritz-Carlton and JW Marriott Orlando  
Provides the Ideal Getaway*

**Orlando, FL – April 2005** – According to the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA), the number of young women playing golf has tripled in the past five to 10 years, sparking mainstream interest in the women’s golf scene. Catering to this trend, The Ritz-Carlton Golf Club, Orlando, Grande Lakes, provides a unique “female friendly” golf experience for both amateur and professional women golfers.

In addition to the 18-hole Greg Norman-designed championship golf course that offers multiple sets of tees and allows for few forced carries, The Ritz-Carlton Golf Club has LPGA and PGA professionals on staff as well as female caddies to accompany women golfers throughout their round of golf. The Ritz-Carlton Golf Shop also offers a large selection of golf attire and equipment for female golfers.

Grande Lakes Orlando invites ladies to tee off with their friends on a luxury golf retreat with the Girlfriend’s Golf & Spa Getaway Package, available at both The Ritz-Carlton and JW Marriott Orlando on the 500-acre Grande Lakes estate, which opened in July 2003.

The package is based on double occupancy, excludes taxes and is based on availability. Rates start at \$1,116 at The Ritz-Carlton and \$1,022 at the JW Marriott and include:

- Two-nights accommodations
- Two rounds of golf with a Caddie Concierge
- Two one-hour golf lessons
- Two Arnica-Friction Massages. Arnica acts as a strong anti-inflammatory and is blended with warming bay laurel, rosemary and basil to ease muscle congestion.
- Breakfast buffet for two at The Vineyard Grill (for guests staying at The Ritz-Carlton) or at Citron (for guests staying at JW Marriott)
- \$50 credit toward purchases at the Golf Shop (which offers brands such as Greg Norman, Lilly Pulitzer, Nike, Adidas, and Burberry)

-more-

The golf team at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Club is encouraging women golfers to stay with the game. “Although 40 percent of new golfers are female, many of them do not stick with the sport for more than nine months because they find there is not enough support, given that traditionally it was a male-dominated sport,” said Jim Richerson, golf director at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Club. “Recognizing this, The Ritz-Carlton Golf Club provides tailored services to make the golf experience as enjoyable and comfortable as possible for the ladies who play our course,” he added.

Situated at the headwaters of the Florida Everglades, the golf course offers two distinct golf settings in an 18-hole round. Several holes are routed through pristine areas where preserved wetlands and natural woodlands dominate the experience. By contrast, the three dynamic finishing holes weave alongside the two towering hotels that make up the resort, the 584-room Ritz-Carlton and the 1,000-room JW Marriott. After a few rounds of golf, the ladies can relax at the 40,000-square-foot Ritz-Carlton Spa. Surrounded by lush gardens, the Spa features 40 treatment rooms, a 6,000-square-foot fitness center, a lap pool for spa guests only, spa cafe and a spa retail shop.

The 500-acre Grande Lakes Orlando estate is located 15 minutes from the Orlando International Airport, five minutes from the Orange County Convention Center and minutes from the major theme parks. For reservations, call: **The Ritz-Carlton Orlando** at 1-800-576-5760/**JW Marriott Orlando** at 1-800-576-5750. For more information about Grande Lakes Orlando, visit [www.grandelakes.com](http://www.grandelakes.com).

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