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**HOTEL VALENCIA LISTED AMONG SAN JOSE'S GREENEST HOTELS**

Hotel Valencia Santana Row named as a leader in environmentally friendly travel by eco-travel website

**San Jose, CA (July 14, 2009)** – Hotel Valencia Santana Row's efforts to lead the way in sustainability have won them recognition by iStayGreen.org. The hotel has been named by the green-travel website among 5 other hotels in San Jose as one of the area's most environmentally-friendly hotels.

Hotel Valencia has long been a leader in green hotels, initiating efforts such as an Ozone Laundry System, energy-efficient lighting and the use of a HeatSvr blanket to reduce natural gas usage in the pool and spa area. Hotel Valencia's Citrus Restaurant also offers organic wine and relies on local farmers and fisherman to obtain the freshest ingredients, thus decreasing emissions associated with shipping.

"Hotel Valencia's sustainability program is vital to lowering the rising energy costs and environmental concerns," says Bonnie Best, general manager of Hotel Valencia Santana Row. "We continue to seek ways to reduce our environmental footprint and are proud to be a community leader in this effort."

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### **About Valencia Group**

Valencia Group, a Houston-based company, provides management, development, branding and repositioning services for full-service, independent hotels owned by Valencia as well as third-parties. As with Hotel Valencia Santana Row in San Jose, CA, and Hotel Valencia Riverwalk in San Antonio, TX, most Valencia sponsored hotels are set in the cultural heart of each city. Valencia Group hotels fuse globally-inspired modern design with Mediterranean influences, becoming popular destinations for guests and visitors alike. Other Valencia Group projects include Hotel Sorella (Houston, Dallas, TX); Hotel Georgia (Vancouver, BC); and Hotel Valencia (Austin, TX). Valencia Group continues to forge its position as a mixed-use anchor with projects where the right balance of residential, restaurant, retail and office coalesce to create full-spectrum accretive value in great urban settings. For more information, please visit [www.valenciagroup.com](http://www.valenciagroup.com).

### **About iStayGreen.org**

With iStayGreen's rapidly growing searchable directory of 100,000 lodging properties and over 3,500 already Green Eco-Leaf Rated, it's easy for anyone to quickly locate and compare "Green" lodging worldwide. To earn a Green Eco-Leaf Rating, hotels must complete a thorough self-audit, and then are rated based on their eco-initiatives. The site also provides an effective way for hotel owners and operators to promote all of the good "Green" things they are doing. Visitors to the site can create their own profiles, add friends, recommend properties, upload photos, form groups, create and respond to forum threads, make reservations, and add comments and reviews to hotel profiles.