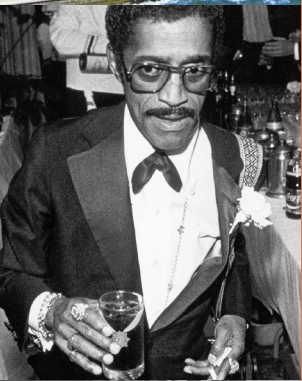




# The Golden Guestbook



**1958** **Sam Friedland**, founder of Food Fair Supermarket Chain, opens the 350-room Diplomat Hotel on South Ocean Drive

## 1960s

**1962** **Lawrence Welk** films his first TV show in Florida

**1965** Sen. **Robert Kennedy**, his wife Ethel, and his mother Rose Kennedy attended the *John F. Kennedy Memorial Ball*

**1966** **Arthur Godfrey** tapes his popular CBS radio show from the Tack Room Lounge

*February 2-10: **Judy Garland** performed “He’s Got The Whole World In His Hands” and “Chicago” as well as other popular hits, in the Hotel’s Showroom, Café Crystal.*

## 1970s

**1974** *December 31: **Frank Sinatra**, a regular guest at The Resort, performs a private 14-song concert to ring in the New Year.*

**1976** **Sammy Davis Jr.**, a regular at The Diplomat, serves as best man to his close friend, **Irving Cowan**, at his wedding vow renewal with wife, **Marge Cowan**, on-site.

*December 13: **Sammy Davis, Jr.** and **Liza Minnelli** perform a special New Year’s Eve concert at The Diplomat.*

**1979** *March: **The Bee Gees, Olivia Newton John, Cher** and **Suzi Quatro** perform at *The Diplomat for the National Association of Recording Merchandisers convention.**

*October: **Andy Warhol** visits his close friends, The Diplomat’s owners **Irving** and **Marge Cowan**, to shoot a silkscreen portrait of Marge.*

## 1980s

**1982** **Saudi Arabian Sheik Mohammed Al-Fassi** rents two floors at the Diplomat and is promptly arrested after trying to skip out on his \$1.4 million tab. He unsuccessfully attempts to sue the hotel for \$1 trillion.

**1983** *July 18: Former President **Ronald Reagan** addresses the International Longshoremen’s Association at their *Quadrennial Convention.**

**1984** *December 31: **Bob Hope**, a regular guest at The Diplomat, performs at the Hotel’s *New Year’s Eve Gala.**

**1986** *December 25-31: **Ray Charles** performs at the Café Crystal for \$170,000 in compensation for 10 songs.*



# Only At The Diplomat...



## 1990s

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**1998** *April 17:* Five hundred pounds of dynamite are used to implode the historic hotel, marking the beginning of a new era for The Diplomat.

## 2000s

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**2000** *March 15:* The Country Club at The Diplomat opens to the public: including a highly regarded Joe Lee-designed golf course, Pro Shops, Locker Rooms, 60-luxury guest rooms, 10-clay tennis courts, Grand Ballroom, The Royal Palm Room, The Links Grill and Tack Room Lounge Restaurants.

**2002** *January:* The iconic newly constructed Diplomat Beach Resort opens, including 1,000 total guestrooms, the 209,000-sq. ft. Convention Center, The Diplomat Landing, a connected Retail Center & Marina.

**2004** *April:* Actress **Demi Moore** alongside boyfriend Actor **Ashton Kutcher** visit The Diplomat Hotel during a *Kabbalah Convention*.

**2009** *March 10:* **Maury Povich** tapes parts of his show, *The Maury Show*, poolside with a live audience of spring breakers.

## 2010s

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**2010** U.S. Vice President **Joe Biden** speaks during his attendance at a Florida Democratic Party event to support Florida's State Party.

**2012** *March 16:* Acclaimed rapper, **MC Lyte**, 3 Grammy Award-Winning Artist, **Ramsey Lewis**, attended the *Annual Jazz in Gardens* event.

*April 12:* President **Barack Obama** visits The Diplomat Beach Resort for a campaign event as the central stop during his 1-day Florida Fundraiser tour.

*November 2:* **Harry Wayne** "L.K.C" Casey of the KC and The Sunshine Band performs at a Gala onsite.

**2013** *August 16:* *The Dwayne Wade Basketball Fantasy Camp* is hosted at the Diplomat with **Wade**, **Lebron James** and **Kevin Hart** in attendance.

*October 25:* The Village People reunite! **Ray Simpson**, **Jim Newman**, **Bill Whitefield**, **Felipe Rose**, **Eric Anzalone** and **Alex Briley** perform for the *13th Annual Footy's Bubbles & Bones Gala!*





# Only At The Diplomat...



**2014** Actor **George Hamilton** and actress **Pamela Shaw** attend *The Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival Chairman's Awards Gala*, where Hamilton receives The Lifetime Achievement Award.

**Jeb Bush** speaks at the *ITF Conference* hosted onsite.

*September*: The Hotel is acquired by Thayer Lodging Group ("Thayer").

The Resort joins Curio – A Collection by Hilton Worldwide, and announces a \$100 million enhancement initiative.

*October 24*: **Grandmaster Flash** performs at a gala at The Diplomat.

**2015** *November 23*: NASCAR drivers **Jeff Gordon**, **Kevin Harvick**, **Kyle Busch** and **Martin Truex Jr.**, host a press conference during NASCAR's Sprint Cup Championship.

**2016** 4-time world heavyweight boxing champion **Evander Holyfield**, multiple world-champion **Julio César Chávez**, and famed boxing promoter **Don King** attend the *World Boxing Council Press Conference*. **Laila Ali** was also in attendance.

**2017** *April*: The Resort completes its 2015 renovation, including completely renovated guestrooms, lobby space, Convention Center, and multiple new restaurant concepts including four restaurants and bars.

*May 18*: **Erin Andrews**, sports commentator, TV personality and former *Dancing With The Stars* hosts the *Cervical Cancer Educational Forum* on-site.

**2018** *February 15*: NY Yankee legend & Miami Marlins CEO, **Derek Jeter** receives the Joe DiMaggio Icon Award at The Diplomat.

*November*: The Diplomat Spa + Wellness launches partnership with Core Fitness Training (CFT) and opens CFT Studio at the Diplomat Landing.

**2019** US President **Donald Trump** visits The Resort to address the *Israeli American Council National Summit*.

## 2020s

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**2023** *June*: Miami-raised rapper, **Kodak Black** performs 10 songs at The Resort at the *Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Teen Leadership conference*.

*August 30-September 2*: NFL's **Tom Brady**, Professional Boxer, **Mike Tyson** stay at the Diplomat and keynote the 3-day *Vault Conference*.



# Guestbook Archive



Andy Warhol  
Anthony Scaramucci  
Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Arthur Godfrey Arthur  
Godfrey Aston Kutcher  
Bill Cosby  
Bob Hope  
Busta Rhymes  
Cher  
DJ Irie  
DJ Khaled  
Don King  
Dwayne Wade  
Elvis Presley Englebert  
Floyd Mayweather  
Harry Mack  
Humperdinck Ernie  
Hudson Gabrielle Union  
George Hamilton Jackie  
Gleason  
Jeb Bush  
Jeff Gordan  
Joe Biden  
Joe Dimaggio  
John Maxwell  
Judy Garland  
Kevin Hart  
Kodak Black  
Laila Ali  
Lebron James  
Liza Minelli  
Maury Povich  
MC Lyte  
Mickey Mantle  
Mike Tyson  
Peyton Manning  
Ray Charles  
Rick Ross  
Rick Flair  
Robert F. Kennedy  
Sammy Davis Jr.  
Tyler Perry  
Saudi Arabian Sheik Mohamed al-Fassi  
Seattle Kraken NHL Team  
The Aston Martin Formula-1 Race Team  
The Ferrari Formula-1 Race Team  
The Bee Gees  
The President of Suriname  
The Prime Minister of the Bahamas The  
Village People  
Tom Brady  
Tucker Carlson  
Tyler Perry  
Winston Churchill  
Wyclef Jean  
Yogi Berra