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**The Peabody Orlando Opens First Floor Of Renovated Guest Rooms And Announces
Expansion Opening Date**

Orlando, Fla. With less than four months until the opening of its highly anticipated \$450-million expansion, The Peabody Orlando has officially opened its first floor of renovated ultra-luxurious rooms to its guests. As part of the expansion, which is set to open September 23, all of the current guest rooms will be renovated to include LED motion-sensor night lights, 42" LCD TVs, iPod docking stations and 19" LCD TVs in bathroom mirrors, which will create a seamless transition in to the new tower.

In addition to the newly renovated rooms, The Peabody Orlando boasts the following construction updates:

- Construction on the pool shell is complete at both the resort pool complex as well as in the grotto pool at the spa.
- The landscaping has started with the installation of date palm trees at the Convention Way Plaza, which were imported from the Yuma, Arizona desert.
- The guest tower structure is complete and furniture installation is underway. Over 300 of the 750 new rooms have been approved and are locked off until the opening.
- Travertine wall tiles and polished marble floors are being installed in the new registration area, the new lobby bar and Rocks, the new 6,000-square-foot bar overlooking the new free-formed zero-entry grotto pool.
- Napa, the Napa Valley wine-themed restaurant and bar, is currently being framed.
- The work on The Peabody Convention and Meeting Center is concentrating on finishes. In the Peabody Ballroom, the wall covering, acoustical panels, custom light fixtures and movable walls are being installed. Venetian plaster wall accents at the Grand Ballroom entrances and the frames for custom 3-D public art are currently underway. The eyebrow entrance features, tile waterfall wall in the Rotunda and wave ceiling have been completed.
- The breakout and meeting rooms have progressed and carpet installation is underway.

It's an exciting time for the hotel and Central Florida, stated Alan Villaverde, president of Peabody Hotels and managing director of The Peabody Orlando. This is a huge project for Central Florida, especially in this tough economic environment. Over the past few years, the construction for The Peabody Orlando expansion has aided in the creation of 1,200 temporary construction jobs and we plan to add approximately 200 permanent full-time employees and 200 part-time staff to prepare for the opening of our expansion. We are busy with preparations and are already booking meetings in our new convention space, which is set to open in late July.

When completed, The Peabody Orlando will feature 1,641 luxurious guest rooms including 193 suites, 300,000 total square feet of state-of-the-art, flexible function space, the 22,000-square-foot, full-service Peabody Spa & Athletics Club and 12 delectable dining and entertainment options.

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About The Peabody Orlando:

The Peabody Orlando, opened in November 1986, is a staple in the Orlando-area convention and tourism industry and famous for its Peabody Ducks. The hotel has received the prestigious *Forbes Travel Guide* Four Star rating for 21 consecutive years. Located directly across from and adjacent to the Orange County Convention Center and in the heart of the International Drive entertainment district, The Peabody Orlando currently offers 891 guest rooms, 57,000 square feet of flexible meeting space and a wide variety of dining, entertainment and recreation opportunities. Peabody Hotels, comprising The Peabody Orlando, The Peabody Memphis and The Peabody Little Rock (all Forbes Travel Guide Four Star rated hotels) is a division within the portfolio Peabody Hotel Group of Memphis, Tennessee. To learn more, please visit www.peabodyorlando.com, become a fan on Facebook or follow on Twitter.