

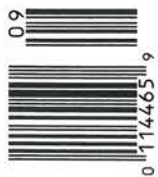
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Tampa Bay

MAGAZINE™



\$3.95
September/October 2013

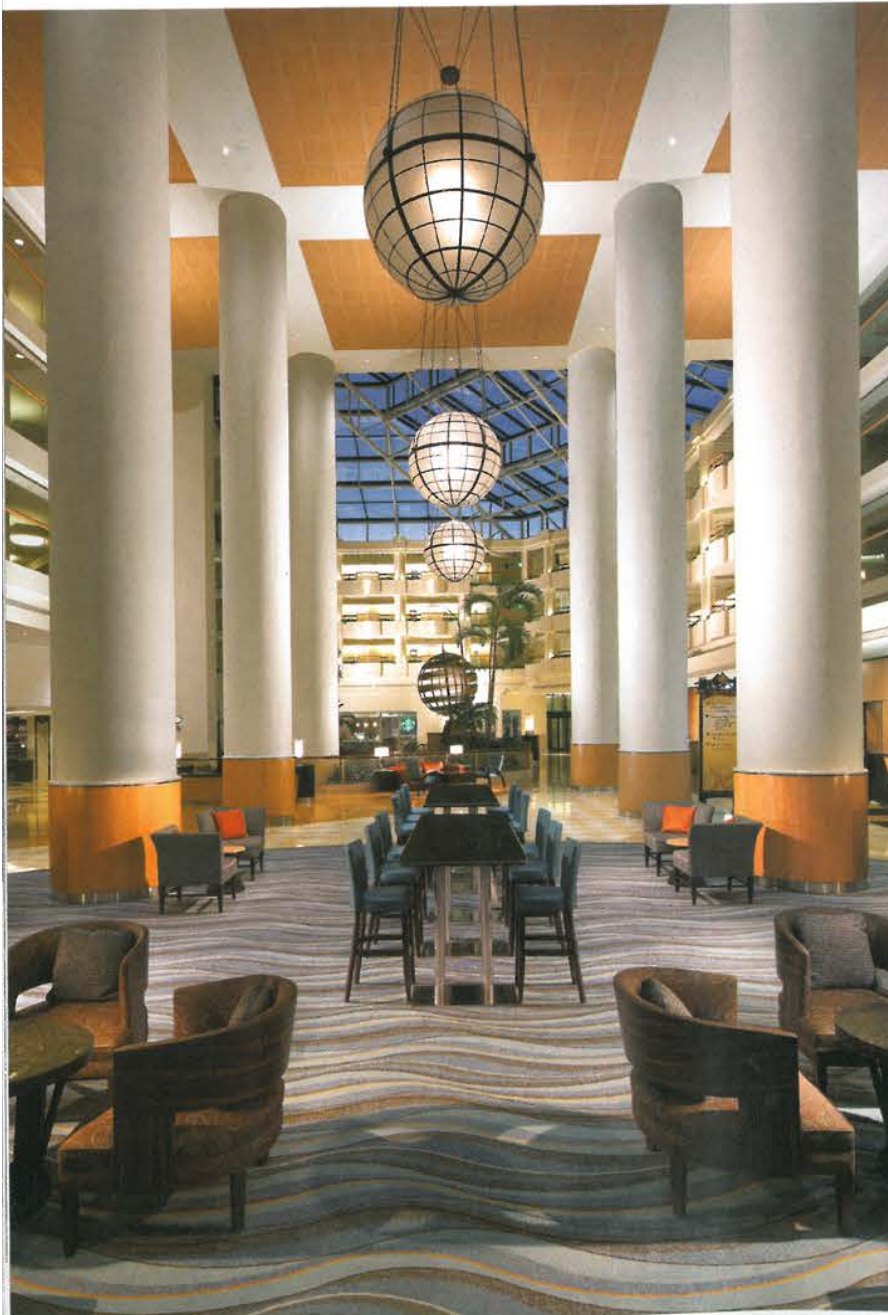


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SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Orlando World Center Marriott

By Margaret Word Burnside and Aaron R. Fodiman
Photography by Noraa and Gram



THE FOUR-DIAMOND ORLANDO World Center Marriott is a “World” beyond compare. This 2000-room resort is 1.5 miles from Walt Disney World and just minutes from Sea World, Discovery Cove, Aquatica and Legoland. However, there is no reason to leave the 200 landscaped acres on which it sits. The possibilities here begin at the iconic Falls Pool Oasis, where you can plunge into the water from the new slide tower that features two, 200-foot winding water slides and a 90-foot, speed water slide that is one of the tallest and fastest slides in Florida. If that is beyond your idea of fun, try the splash zone, where there is a zero-entry pool and playground, or stay by the Poolside Bar and Grill.

*this was a
perfect getaway*

From morning to night, we enjoyed a wide array of activities that were designed to meet the needs and wants of anyone’s life-style and interests. In addition to enjoying the poolside music and entertainment, special wine dinners, food tastings and cooking classes, we even went to a golf clinic, where we learned to chip, putt and drive. Well, maybe our drives were more like short walks. But we hit the balls, and didn’t dig up much grass, as Golf Master Bill Madonna tutored us on the basics of the game at his Golf Academy at the championship Hawk’s Landing Golf Club that is a part of the resort. We did pass up the fitness center to go to the full-service spa, where any exertion from our golf outing was massaged away with hot stones and kneading hands. What a delight! We didn’t visit the tennis, basketball or volleyball courts either. In fact, we even missed a few of the resort’s ten restaurants and lounges; a few being the family Food Court and maybe three others at most.

*The resort’s striking lobby serves
as a central meeting place for guests.*



The gigantic, multi-level pool area encourages relaxation.



Enjoying drinks poolside can be exhausting.



The killer whale show at Sea World is a splashy spectacular.



You never know what celebrating you might see at the Marriott World Center.



The chefs at the Mikado Restaurant become showmen as they prepare your meal.



At Siro: Urban Italian Kitchen, Executive Chef Anthony Burdo creates vibrant flavors by utilizing local seasonal ingredients as guests experience the Italian custom of communal dining.



The bird's-eye view of the pool area from the 28th floor gives you a sense of the resort's overall size.

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Everywhere we looked, there was evidence of the resort's recent multimillion-dollar renovation. This destination prides itself on its high level of customization and flexibility to enhance the experience of each guest and group, as they extend an unparalleled level of quality. We experienced their commitment to excellence, from our arrival and the ease of our check-in to the relaxing, contemporary design of our suite, the deliciously creative dining, and the friendly staff, who pampered and aimed to please at every turn. For us, this was a perfect getaway – close to home, but a world away. ■■■

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Orlando World Center Marriott is located at Exit 67 on I-4. For reservations, call 888-99-WORLD or visit www.worldcentermarriott.com.



A cooking class is one of the special events that can be arranged at the World Center.