

THE COLONY HOTEL CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

Located at the heart of Atlantic Avenue, the Colony Hotel has stood witness to the evolution of Delray Beach. The hotel debuted as the "Alterepe Hotel" in 1926, after a group of investors led by Albert T. Repp spent some \$350,000 to finance its construction. Repp and his colleagues built such a magnificent structure due to Delray Beach's growth as a prestigious resort community during the Roaring Twenties. Designed by architect Martin Luther Hampton, the Alterepe Hotel was perhaps the greatest structure built within the city in the 1920s. Standing three stories tall, its brilliant Spanish Colonial Revival-style architecture brilliantly commemorated the state's Hispanic heritage. The resort's gorgeous stucco walls and iconic domed towers made it incredibly unique when compared to many of its fellow local destinations.

Despite its grand character, the Alterepe Hotel struggled to generate business, and the Great Depression caused Repp to foreclose. Salvation arrived in 1935 when newlyweds George and Agnes Boughton purchased the ailing resort for \$50,000 and renamed it "The Colony Hotel." Their stewardship saw the resort become Delray Beach's hottest attraction, with lavish interior details including a Spanish Galleon carved into the lobby mantle, terrazzo floors, wrought iron chandeliers, antique lamps, an Otis & Company elevator, and Fixx Reed wicker furniture, which still exists today.

In 1948, George Boughton acquired another historic resort in Maine, rebranding it as "The Colony Hotel." In 1949, he developed the "Cabana Club," featuring a heated saltwater pool, private beach, tropical fauna, and complimentary cabanas. After George's death in 1986 and Agnes's in 1994, their daughter Jestena Boughton and niece Hilary Roche assumed control. In 1999, the hotel joined Historic Hotels of America, and in 2001 the Boughton family completed extensive renovations, adding air conditioning in hallways and preserving the historic character.

All 70 guestrooms feature original furniture, tropical fabrics, hardwood floors, unique appointments, Florida artwork, and "dreamy beds" with organic cotton sheets. The Colony Cabana Club, two miles from the hotel, continues to offer a heated saltwater pool, beach cabanas, and spectacular ocean views for events and daily lunches. The Colony Hotel & Cabana Club is among Florida's most historic holiday destinations, hailed as a timeless masterpiece and "the best-known landmark" in Delray Beach.

Presented this 2nd day of June 2026.

Thomas F. Carney, Jr.
Mayor