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Beach Walk Welcomes New Executive Chef

Destin, Florida (September 21, 2005) – Tim Creehan, Owner/Chef Beach Walk Crystal Beach, welcomes new culinary talent, Clay Lichterman, to his team.



A recent transplant to Destin, Clay Lichterman is excited to bring his culinary talents and imagination to Tim Creehan's award winning restaurant, Beach Walk Crystal Beach as the new Executive Chef.

Born and raised in Memphis, Tennessee, Clay's love for cooking began at an early age. Clay began reading his mother's cookbooks and experimenting in the kitchen at home before he was old enough to work. His first apprenticeship at

Jarrett's in Memphis taught him how restaurants work and soon he was hooked. His next post was at Grove Grill where he mastered every position in the kitchen.

Clay worked at two hotels in the Middle East while studying abroad. Upon his return to The States, Clay moved to New Orleans and became part of the team at Brennan's. He also worked with a number of Celebrated Chefs through participation in numerous charity events and organizations.

Clay's next move led him to attend Johnson & Wales University in Charleston, South Carolina. At Johnson & Wales, he received the Escoffier Medal for exemplary performance in French classical cuisine; a true fit for Beach Walk's culinary fare. Upon completion of his internship at Seeger's in Atlanta, Clay was awarded a Sous Chef position with Buckhead Life Restaurant Group. His post at Veni Vidi Vici, a classical Italian restaurant in Midtown, allowed him to share his culinary talents with celebrities such as Cynthia Nixon, Sammy Hagar and Tom Jones.

Beach Walk Crystal Beach is Destin's only fine dining restaurant on the Gulf of Mexico. Beach Walk has won numerous accolades and awards including: Emerald Coast's Best Chef 2005, Florida Trend's Golden Spoon Award – Top 25 Restaurants in Florida 2001 – 2005, Wine Spectator Award of Excellence 2005 and the 2005 DiRoNA Award, Distinguished Restaurants of North America.