

FOR: EAGLE RIDGE RESORT & SPA FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Photography available

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**EAGLE RIDGE RESORT & SPA MAKES THE PERFECT SPRING GETAWAY
DURING WINE LOVERS' WEEKEND ON MARCH 28-30, 2008**

GALENA, Ill. (December 17, 2007) – Travelers who are looking for a relaxing getaway this spring while sipping on wine need to look no further than **Wine Lovers' Weekend** at **Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa** in Galena, located just 150 miles west of Chicago. From **March 28-30**, guests can enjoy a weekend of culinary bliss while sampling numerous wine varietals, noshing on gourmet food and attending seminars that are led by celebrated winemakers from across the country.

While the weekend promises to be one of fine wine and dining, it features professional wine enthusiasts and culinary artists such as:

- Jonathan Nagy, Director of Winemaking at **Byron Vineyards & Winery** in Santa Maria Valley, California. Jonathan's expertise has earned him the prestigious role of a world-class producer of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay.
- Denise Shurtleff, Winemaker at **Cambria Winery** in Santa Maria, California. Denise spent 16 years with Corbett Canyon Vineyards where she was Winemaker and Winery Manager before joining Cambria in 1999, working closely with former Winemaker Fred Holloway on the award-winning Cambria Chardonnays and Pinot Noirs.
- Spanish Winemaker Juan Pujol of **Torres Winery** in Torres, Spain, which was named "European Winery of the Year" by *Wine Enthusiast* in 2006 and the 15th "Most Powerful Wine Brand in the World" by *Decanter* magazine in 2007.
- Executive Chef Taki Lalotitis of **Artisan Estates**. He is a graduate of the Ecole Supérieure de Cuisine Française in Paris and a veteran of some of the most respected centers of culinary excellence in the world. His broad scope of endeavor has included positions at Market-Jean Georges and Restaurant Alain Ducasse in Paris, and The French Laundry in Yountville.
- Rex Clark of **Kendall-Jackson** based in Santa Rosa, California, which continues to produce outstanding wines, and where their vineyards are found atop cool coastal mountains, rocky ridge tops and the rolling hillsides of northern California.

For guests who may need a break from all the vino, you are also in luck: a special rum tasting sponsored by **10 Cane Rum** from Trinidad is scheduled during the festive weekend, along with a beer and food pairing luncheon presented by Chicago-based **Goose Island Brewery** and a Pastry Extravaganza prepared by Eagle Ridge's very own Pastry Chef Wayne Joull. *A schedule of events is available by calling (815) 776-5028 or by visiting www.eagleridge.com.*

SPECIAL PACKAGE: Guests who are interested in attending this weekend getaway can book a **Wine Lovers' Weekend Package** that includes two-night accommodations, sponsored meals and beverages, admission to all scheduled wine seminars and tastings, and a ticket to the Grand Tasting Event that takes place at the Galena Convention Center on Friday, March 28. Packages start at **\$489 per person**, excluding tax, and can be booked by calling Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa at **(800) 892-2269**.

About Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa

Located on 6,800 acres amid the rolling hills of northwestern Illinois, **Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa** is a full-spectrum resort complex located 150 miles west of Chicago. Recently honored by *Travel + Leisure Golf* as the Midwest's "Best Golf Resort" and by *Corporate & Incentive Travel* magazine with the "Greens of Distinction" award, the property provides a superior golf experience with 63 holes on four award winning courses.

Other amenities include the tranquil Stonedrift Spa, which provides a complete sensory experience, and a state-of-the-art fitness center with a beautiful indoor pool, sauna, hot tub and steam room. The property is also home to three distinctive restaurants including Woodlands Restaurant, Spikes Bar & Grill and Paisanos. Recommended by outlets including *Conde Nast Traveler*, *Midwest Living*, *Better Homes & Gardens* and *Wine Enthusiast*, the property also provides the perfect setting to an incredible selection of outdoor activities including miles of biking, hiking and horseback trails, as well as tennis, hot air balloon rides, boating and fishing on the picturesque 220-acre Lake Galena. For reservations or additional information, call (800) 892-2269 or visit www.eagleridge.com.

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
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