



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**EAGLE RIDGE RESORT & SPA
CELEBRATES ITS 12th ANNUAL WINE LOVERS' WEEKEND**

GALENA, ILL. - "Uncork & Unwind" at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa's 12th Annual Wine Lovers' Weekend, March 23-25, 2012. Enjoy a spectacular weekend at the resort while participating in wine-centric tastings, seminar, luncheon and exquisite culinary-infused wine dinners.

"For the past twelve years Eagle Ridge has been hosting a Wine Lovers' Weekend and each year we add a new twist to enhance the event," said Rick Remington, Eagle Ridge's Food & Beverage Director and one of the resort's two sommeliers. "This year's event features winemakers and representatives from some of the finest wineries in the country. As a result, guests are going to have an exclusive opportunity to experience some very rare wines and incredible culinary presentations."

"Wine Lovers' Weekend is perfect for the novice just becoming interested in wine or the seasoned veteran with a cellar in their basement," added Remington. "We are very excited this year to be offering wine presentations from Rutherford Wine Company, Pure Wines, Pali Wine Company, Small Vineyard Imports and Boutique Wine Collection."

The highlight of the weekend focuses on a special "Pali Noir Culinary Battle: The Main Event" on Saturday night that will evolve around a culinary battle between Brian Lynch, Executive Chef-Owner of Spot-On Cellars from Sonoma, California, and several of the resort's finest chefs, pairing food with limited production single vineyard Pinot Noirs.

While the weekend promises to be one filled with fine wine and dining, it also features professional wine enthusiasts and events aside from "The Main Event" such as:

- Winemaker Tyson Wolf from Rutherford Wine Company in St. Helena, California, who will open the weekend late Friday afternoon with a special Rutherford "Check-In" wine tasting as wine lover guests arrive at the resort.
- Jeff Morgenthal of Boutique Wine Collection of Los Angeles, California, will host the opening dinner reception Friday night "Fire and Ice," which will feature wine from "hot" South Africa, along with rare German-Austrian late harvest Rieslings from Dr. Hermann and Huber Winery. Food offerings

include "action stations," featuring South African specialties designed specifically to enhance the wines. Dessert wines will also be a very important part of the palate pleasing selections as well that evening.

- Winemaker Tyson Wolf will open Saturday morning with "Napa Niche," an informative seminar on the finer points of Napa wines.
- A "Roses' of the World" Luncheon is planned for Saturday following the seminar and will be hosted by Troy Clements of Pure Wines of Downers Grove, Illinois. A brief discussion about production methods and grape varieties sets the stage to showcase the versatility of the wines in culinary pairings. Featured wines will be Pinot Noir from Austria, followed by wines from Spain, France and California.
- A special "Taste of Venice" Sunday brunch allows you to sample Prosecco from Andrea Bocelli and Moscato D' Asti from Tre Donne Vineyards while enjoying great Italian food. The weekend concludes at the brunch with a wine-infused panel discussion with the weekend's featured wine professionals.

"Uncord & Unwind" Wine Lovers' Weekend Package

Guests who are interested in attending this weekend getaway can book a Wine Lovers' Weekend Package that includes two-night accommodations, sponsored meals, tastings and wine seminar. A special wine lovers' welcome gift is also part of the package. Package rates start at \$325 per person, based on double occupancy (excluding tax and resort amenity fee) and can be booked by calling Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa at 800-892-2269.

About Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa

Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa is located 150 miles west of Chicago in the heart of The Galena Territory, a 6,800 acre recreational, residential and resort community nestled amid the rolling hills of northwestern Galena, Illinois. Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa is a full-spectrum resort and showcases superior golf with 63 holes on four acclaimed courses which include the North Course; the South Course; the East Course (9-holes); and the resort's crowning achievement, The General, with over 250 feet of elevation changes throughout the 18 holes.

Lodging accommodations at Eagle Ridge are delightfully unique with 80 quaint Inn rooms and over 250 villas and distinctive homes to choose from throughout the property. For the resort's corporate clients Eagle Ridge boasts 15,000 square feet of state-of-the-art meeting space, in addition to beautiful conference homes for small, elegant meetings. The entire facility is also the perfect venue for banquets, weddings and theme parties. Eagle Ridge offers three distinctive restaurants that include award-winning Woodlands Restaurant, along with Spikes Bar & Grill and Paisanos Italian Deli. Other amenities include the tranquil Stonedrift Spa, providing ten treatment rooms for a complete sensory experience, and a state-of-the-art fitness center with a beautiful indoor/outdoor pool, sauna and steam room.

The resort lays claim to numerous industry awards and recognition, such as:

- In 2012, The General ***Golf Digest*** awarded The General their "Architecture Award" in recognition of outstanding design. The course was named No. 24 among golf courses in the state of Illinois 2011/2012 by the editors of Golf Digest Magazine and its national panel of course raters.
- ***Successful Meetings*** - Honored Eagle Ridge with the "Pinnacle Award" as voted by readers in the Hotels & Resorts category for 2011. The resort also won the award in 2008 and 2009.

- ***Golfweek*** - The General was named as one of the best resort courses in their annual "Best Resort Courses" listing for 2012. The resort laid claim to the ranking in both 2009 and 2010. In 2009, the same magazine named The General second in the state of Illinois for *Golfweek's Best Courses You Can Play* listing.
- ***Meetings MidAmerica*** - Eagle Ridge was honored with the "Best of Mid-America" award for outstanding corporate meeting space as voted by readers in 2011. The resort was given the honor in 2007, 2008 and 2010.
- In 2010, ***Golf Magazine*** listed The General as the #4 "Best in Illinois" course to play alongside the "Top 100 Courses You Can Play" ranking. In 2000, 2008 and 2010, The General was listed as one of the "Top 100 Courses You Can Play" in the magazine's ranking
- In 2009, ***Golf Digest*** named The General one of the best golf courses in the state of Illinois for *The World's Greatest Golf* rankings, 2009-2010. The General was named #24 in the state of Illinois. The rankings were put out as a supplement to the May 2009 issue of Golf Digest.
- In 2009, ***Zagat*** ranked Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa's The General, North and South courses in the 2009 America's Top Golf Courses, sixth edition as ranked and reviewed by players.

The property is the perfect backdrop to an incredible selection of outdoor activities including miles of biking, hiking and horseback riding trails, as well as tennis, hot air balloon rides, boating and fishing on the picturesque 225-acre Lake Galena. For reservations or additional information, call (800) 892-2269 or visit www.eagleridge.com.