



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Vineyard Hotel & Spa's 5 wine partners all members of the WWF BWI

(Cape Town, 15 February 2011) The Vineyard Hotel & Spa's five wine partners are now all members of the WWF Biodiversity and Wine Initiative (BWI) - a pioneering partnership between the South African wine industry and the conservation sector.

The BWI aims to protect and conserve our unique natural heritage within the Cape Winelands whilst maintaining living, productive landscapes. It has received global and national recognition for its leading business model that unites conservation and agricultural development in a complementary, mutually beneficial manner.

"It is no secret that the Vineyard Hotel & Spa strives to adopt sustainable development principles in all areas of our business. This achievement just illustrates why we enjoy such a good working relationship with Waterford, Meerlust, Simonsig, Warwick and Klein Constantia: not only do we share a love of wine, there is also a shared love and respect for our environment," commented Roy Davies, the hotel's General Manager.

The BWI has 167 members and 19 champions. "Special mention must be made of Klein Constantia. We were so impressed by their efforts that we have welcomed the farm on board as a Champion of the BWI," explained Gareth Hardres-Williams, Extension Officer of the WWF BWI.

Over 126 000 hectares of natural area have been conserved by BWI producers in less than four years. This means that the South African wine industry's conservation footprint is well in excess of its current vineyard footprint of 102 000 hectares. For every hectare under vineyard, an additional hectare of natural vegetation is committed to conservation – and this figure continues to grow.

"Our first gourmet wine event for the year is the perfect opportunity to come and mingle with the winemakers from these five wine estates," said Davies. "On Friday 29 April we will again host our annual gourmet wine dinner with the Vineyard Hotel & Spa's 5 wine partners and the winemakers from Waterford, Meerlust, Simonsig, Warwick and Klein Constantia will all be present."

Guests can look forward to a 5-course dinner with complimentary wines to accompany each course. The cost is R300 per person and bookings are essential, so please contact The Square on 021 657 4500 or e-mail eat@vineyard.co.za.

Other upcoming wine events include:

Date	Wine Estate
Friday 29 April	Schalk Burger & Sons

Friday 27 May	Warwick & Vilafonté
Friday 10 June	West Coast Wines with Tierhoek
Friday 24 June	Stellakaya with Ntsiki Biyela
Friday 1 July	La Motte
Friday 15 July	Solms Delta Wine Estate
Friday 5 Aug	Dombeya Wines with Rianie Strydom
Friday 19 Aug	Catherine Marshall Wines
Friday 2 Sept	Meerlust Wine Estate
Friday 16 Sept	Favourites from Wine Concepts
Friday 7 Oct	Hermanuspietersfontein
Friday 21 Oct	Wines from the Swartland
Friday 28 Oct	Constantia Valley Wines

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PREPARED BY	The Phoenix Partnership
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