

## MEDIA RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

#### Wrap up 2011 in style with a gourmet dinner evening at the Vineyard Hotel & Spa

(Cape Town, 27 September 2011) Based on the success of the series of The Square Restaurant's acclaimed gourmet wine dinners throughout 2011, the Vineyard Hotel & Spa will be celebrating by hosting three more events during October.

The first of these popular evenings will take place on the 7th of October, with Hermanuspietersfontein Wine Estates (HPF) showcasing a selection of wines that will be expertly paired with a 4-course dinner. Winemaker, Bartho Eksteen, realized his dream: to make world-class wines in a well-equipped cellar using only the highest quality grapes from a single farm. Here he controls the entire process from vineyard to cellar to deliver wines of distinctive style and character.

On the 21st of October, the esteemed Swartland region and its revolutionary wines will be represented by Kloovenburg Wine & Olive Estate from the Riebeeck Valley and Babylon's Peak Private Cellar, located in the Paardeberg Mountains. Selected wines from each of these estates will be paired to a series of dishes prepared by The Square's sous chef, Alex Jenkinson, culminating in a gourmet 4-course meal.

Kloovenburg's owner and winemaker, Pieter du Toit selects the best red grape cultivars for the farm's exclusive range of red wines, including Shiraz, Merlot, Pinotage and Cabernet Sauvignon. The idea of planting olive trees was conceived by Pieter's father, believing in the importance of diversification, in order to keep the farm busy when the grape season was over. Today the harvest of olives is produced by three different cultivars and Pieter's wife, Annalene is the olive specialist.

Babylon's Peak, a boutique private cellar nestled on the slopes of the Paardeberg, is known to bottle only the best quality wines. In 2003, fourth generation in the family, Stephan Basson decided to renovate the old cellar that had been in use since 1948, and he then started making wine under the Babylon's Peak label. Stephan set very high standards to the wine bottled under this label – 2003 was the first vintage and only two wines were bottled during that year.

Constantia Valley Wines will be the last but not least of the Vineyard Hotel & Spa's gourmet dinner events for 2011. On the 28th of October, selected wines from the Valley will be paired to various culinary delights during the course of the evening and guests may be lucky enough to sample more than one wine from each of the eight farms participating. 'The Valley' was the cradle of quality wine-making in South Africa and the name Constantia is linked with the most famous wines ever produced in South Africa. As is par for the course with this particular event, due to popular demand this event is now fully booked.

#### 2011 Diners Club Winelist Awards

The Vineyard Hotel & Spa celebrates another successful year at the 2011 Diners Club Winelist Awards. The Garden Lounge improved on their Gold award in 2010 to be awarded a prestigious Platinum in 2011, and the Square Restaurant maintained its Diamond status, which it has been awarded each year since 2009. Lex Petousis, Owner and Group Operations Director of the Vineyard Hotel & Spa proudly congratulated his team on their achievements, highlighting the positive impact on the guest experience enhanced by such achievements.

#### Stay a While

For those guests who'd like to make the evening even more memorable, the Vineyard Hotel & Spa is offering a not-to-be-missed rate which includes the gourmet wine dinner, accommodation and breakfast the following morning. Single rooms are available from R750 and double rooms from R1100 per night.

For more information, and to make a reservation, please contact hotel reservations on 021 657 4500 or e-mail [eat@vineyard.co.za](mailto:eat@vineyard.co.za).

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PREPARED BY	The Phoenix Partnership
DATE	September 2011
FOR CLIENT	Vineyard Hotel & Spa
MORE INFORMATION	Claire Watt
	Tel: 021 686 2331
	E-mail: <a href="mailto:claire@phoenixpartnership.co.za">claire@phoenixpartnership.co.za</a>