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KRIS MARGERUM APPOINTED WINE DIRECTOR FOR AUBERGE RESORTS

Head Sommelier At Auberge du Soleil To Oversee Wine And Spirits Programs For All Properties In Auberge's Expanding Collection

MILL VALLEY, CALIF. (January 18, 2008) – Award-winning luxury hotel developer and operator Auberge Resorts today announced the appointment of Kris Margerum to the newly created position of Wine Director. In addition to keeping his position as Head Sommelier at the company's flagship Auberge du Soleil in Napa Valley, Margerum, will now also oversee the wine and spirits programs at all four Auberge Resorts' properties and at Solage Calistoga, the first property from the company's new Solage Hotels & Resorts brand, which debuted in 2007.

Margerum's career in food and beverage with Auberge Resorts spans nearly 25 years. Head Sommelier at the Michelin-starred Auberge du Soleil Restaurant since 1999, Margerum oversaw one of the largest cellars in Napa Valley. His wine list there currently features 1,500 selections from a 17,000-bottle cellar and has received *Wine Spectator's* "Best of the Award of Excellence" for the past eight years. Margerum directs restaurant staff wine-education programs, conducts wine tastings and advanced-level winery tours for staff on a regular basis. A champion of emerging wineries as well as established producers, he blind-tastes more than 100 wines a week to find four or five that meet his criteria to be featured on an Auberge wine list.

Margerum also has developed wine programs for other Auberge properties. Most recently, he redesigned the wine list at Esperanza, Auberge's resort and private residence club in Los Cabos, Mexico, in conjunction with the arrival of a new executive chef and a recent renovation of the hotel. Margerum is also designing the wine and spirits program at Encantado, the new Auberge resort opening in Santa Fe in the summer of 2008.

Before being appointed Head Sommelier, he was the restaurant's Assistant Food and Beverage Director, helping to oversee daily operations, planning, budgeting, forecasting,

hiring and reviews, monthly inventories and guest satisfaction management. He previously served as restaurant manager.

Margerum has completed his Advanced Sommelier training and will soon be sitting for the Master Sommelier test. He is a graduate of the Sterling School of Service.

He will remain based in Napa Valley.

About Auberge Resorts

Auberge Resorts is a collection of exceptional hotels, resorts and private clubs, each with a unique personality that assures a memorable guest experience. Among the distinctive properties are Auberge du Soleil, Napa Valley; Esperanza, Cabo San Lucas; Calistoga Ranch, Napa Valley; The Inn at Palmetto Bluff, South Carolina; and Encantado, Santa Fe (opening 2008), with several others currently in development. While Auberge Resorts nurtures the individuality of each establishment, all are characterized by a set of communal elements: intimate, understated elegance; captivating locations that inspire exceptional cuisine and spa experiences; and gracious yet unobtrusive service. For more information about Auberge Resorts, please visit www.aubergeresorts.com

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