

RICHARD BETTS
Master of Wines, Auberge Resorts

RUTHERFORD, CALIF. – As Master of Wines at Auberge Resorts, Richard Betts enhances the Auberge Resorts properties’ beverage lists and wine programs, working directly with each culinary team to expand the current offerings and the wine-by-the-glass programs.

“Auberge Resorts are renowned for their culinary expertise and legendary dining venues,” said Betts. “I enjoy continuing to inspire guests with new wine-by-the-glass programs, wine seminars and further enhanced wine lists. Wine offers us all a chance for new discoveries.”

A native of Arizona, Betts originally pursued a career in law, but quickly found he had a passion for food and wine during a sabbatical to Italy. In 2000, he joined the *Wine Spectator* Grand Award-winning restaurant Montagna at The Little Nell in Aspen, Colo. as sommelier, and during the course of a few years he expanded the wine list to more than 2,000 selections. He also garnered the prestigious Krug Cup by passing the Court of Master Sommelier’s Exam on the first attempt.

While in Aspen, he founded Betts & Scholl, his wine label, and has gone on to produce no less than six wines and a Mezcal, all of which have received outstanding national reviews. Within the first year of the Betts & Scholl Grenache’s release, Food & Wine included the winery in the magazine’s “20 Best New Wineries” and stole the show at the Food & Wine Classic in Aspen. Betts has since introduced a Riesling and a Shiraz with all of his wines continually scoring above a 90 in the *Wine Spectator*.

“We are delighted to have Richard join Auberge Resorts,” said CEO Mark Harmon. “His extensive expertise will be valued at each of our properties by staff and guests alike.”

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; Encantado, Santa Fe; Rancho Valencia Resort and Spa, Rancho

Santa Fe, Calif., 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,

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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.

Auberge du Soleil is also a member of **Relais & Châteaux**, the prestigious global hospitality association of intimate, elegant and independently owned hotels and acclaimed restaurants. Founded in 1954 in France, the association is comprised of 480 luxurious establishments in 56 countries.

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