

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**THE 25TH ANNUAL KAPALUA WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL: JULY 6-9, 2006**

*“Silver Salute” celebrates 25 years of fine food & wine*

**KAPALUA RESORT, MAUI, HAWAII (March 7, 2006)** – When noted winemaker Robert Mondavi conceived of the Kapalua Wine and Food Festival (KWFF) in 1981, he invited 50 fellow oenophiles and colleagues from the wine industry to showcase their wines, taste the grape, and enjoy Maui’s good life. Since then, the Festival has become internationally recognized as one of the leading wine and food festivals in the world. This year’s Kapalua Wine & Food Festival will be held July 6-9, at the Kapalua Resort on Maui.

Master Sommelier Fredrick L. Dame, the first American to serve as president of the Court of Master Sommeliers Worldwide, returns as host of the KWFF and is joined by several distinguished Master Sommelier colleagues:

- John Blazon                      *Walt Disney World, Orlando, FL*
- Larry Stone                      *Rubicon, Burlingame, CA*
- Robert Bigelow                *Bellagio Resort & Casino, Las Vegas, NV*
- Shayn Bjornholm              *Canlis Restaurant, Seattle, WA*
- Chuck Furuya                  *Sansei Restaurant & Sushi Bar, Kapalua Resort, HI*

To honor Kapalua Resort’s unparalleled achievement, wineries from around the globe will showcase their finest collections at the event. A special “Silver Salute” seminar will include three decades of vintages from all-star producers with panelists Marc Mondavi (Charles Krug), Michael Martini (Louis M Martini) Donn Reisen (Ridge Vineyards), Stephanie Putman (Far Niente) and Ed Sbragia (Beringer Vineyards).

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The Grand Tasting will be a French-inspired “Tour de Kapalua” and will showcase over 100- premier wineries from around the world; and the French-inspired cuisine of Chef Ming Tsai, Andrew Sutton, Julian Serrano, along with The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua culinary team lead by Executive Chef John Zaner. All of the master sommeliers will be on site to discuss their hand-picked selections in various themed tents, located at The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua Beach House Lawn.

Other highlights include celebrity cooking demonstrations with culinary stars Tsai, Serrano and Sutton; wine tasting seminars, winemaker dinners and much more. KWFF culminates with the Seafood Festival on Sunday, July 9 featuring Hawaii’s top chefs.

#### KWFF ticket prices:

- Four-day admission – \$650 per person
- Wine Tour – \$40 per person
- Cooking Demos & Wine Seminars – \$100 - \$175 per event
- Grand Tasting & Seafood Festival – \$125 - \$145 per event

### **ABOUT THE KAPALUA WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL**

From its debut as a small wine symposium on Maui, KWFF has evolved into an epicurean extravaganza that draws thousands of visitors each year. The four-day event is the longest-running festival of its kind. Event organizers hand-select the participating wineries, Master Sommeliers and chefs, and ask that they showcase only their most revered, reserved vintages and products.

For event tickets, please call toll-free 866-669-2440 or visit our web site at [www.kapalua.com](http://www.kapalua.com).

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**- ABOUT KAPALUA RESORT -**

The Kapalua Resort is a master-planned community set amidst 23,000-acres of Hawai'i's only working pineapple plantation. Located on Maui's northwest coast, the resort is renowned for its world-class golf courses - The Bay, The Village and The Plantation Courses; ten residential communities; premier accommodations - The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua; The Kapalua Villas, a villa rental program; Kapalua Luxury Homes, a luxury home rental program; a tennis complex; three white sand beaches; and a myriad of restaurants and shops. In addition, The Kapalua Resort hosts five signature events each year, the PGA TOUR's season-opening Mercedes Championships in January, Whale Quest at Kapalua in February, The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua's Celebration of the Arts festival in April, the Kapalua Food & Wine Festival in July, and LifeFest Kapalua in September. For more information or to view live images of Kapalua Resort visit [www.kapalua.com](http://www.kapalua.com) or call (800) KAPALUA.

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