

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**THE 24th ANNUAL KAPALUA WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL TO EXPLORE THE BOLD AND COMPELLING WINES OF THE NEW WORLD, JULY 7-10, 2005**

*"A Journey to the New World" to Feature Selections from the US, Australia, Chile, New Zealand and South Africa*

**KAPALUA, MAUI, HAWAII, March 2, 2005** -- Internationally recognized as one of the leading wine and food festivals in the world, the Kapalua Wine & Food Festival, July 7-10, will be more spectacular than ever before this summer. World class wineries from around the globe will showcase the finest, most exquisite collection as they celebrate this year's theme, "A Journey to the New World" with special emphasis on bold and compelling wines from the United States, Australia, Chile, New Zealand and South Africa.

Fred Dame, master sommelier, returns as host of the prestigious, 24-year-old festival and brings together premier stars of the wine and culinary stratosphere. The 2005 roster includes renown Maui Chef Bev Gannon of Hali'imaile, Chef Michael Mina of *Nobhill* and *Aqua* fame, Chef Jean Joho from *Everest* and *Brasserie Jo*, cheese aficionado Kent Torrey of The Cheese Shop in Carmel, California, and nine master sommeliers from the United States and more.

"This extravaganza celebrates the best in wine, food and good living at the world's most beautiful resort, Kapalua," said Dame. "Regarding this year's focus, in simple terms, Old World refers to subtler-style wines while New World wines are bolder in style. Many of the world's most exciting wines are coming from regions that fifty years ago wouldn't have rated one page in any wine book. Now Australia, New Zealand, the United States, South Africa, and Chile are producing some of the most acclaimed wines in the world."

The exciting four-day weekend kicks off with the Grand Tasting on Friday, July 8 and culminates with the Seafood Festival on Sunday, July 10. Cooking demonstrations, wine tasting seminars and winemaker dinners are but a few of the highlights during the festival.

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FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS:

**FRIDAY, July 8th**

- Chef **Bev Gannon** Cooking Demonstration - Chef Bev Gannon prepares her famous Pacific Rim Cuisine paired with premium wine selections
- All Star **Cabernet** Vertical - Featuring vintages from Jordan Vineyards as well as selections from other all-star Napa producers
- **THE GRAND TASTING** - Showcasing world-class wines from over 150 featured wineries and the cuisine of the Kapalua Bay Hotel; the following nationally-acclaimed Master Sommeliers will be on hand to discuss their featured selections and to mingle with guests:
  - Fred Dame, MS - Allied Domecq, USA
  - Richard Betts, MS - Montanga at The Little Nell, Aspen
  - Jay Fletcher, MS - Southern Wine & Spirits of Colorado, Aspen
  - Chuck Furuya, MS - Sansei/Vino Restaurants, Kapalua
  - Virginia Philip, MS -The Breakers Hotel, Palm Beach
  - William Sherer, MS -The Ritz-Carlton, Central Park
  - Alpna Singh, MS - Everest, Chicago
  - Larry Stone, MS - Rubicon, San Francisco
  - Madeline Triffon, MS - Unique Restaurant Corp, Bingham Farms

**SATURDAY, July 9th**

- Master **Sommelier** 102 - Tasting Wine the Masters Way featuring tasting tips from our guest sommeliers.
- Chef **Jean Joho** Cooking Demonstration - Featuring creations by Chef Jean Joho, vice president and executive chef of *Everest*, *Brasserie Jo* and *Eiffel Tower*
- **Kapalua Wine Tour** - Local market wine and spirits distributors showcase the unique and hard-to-find in their portfolios
- The **America's Cup** - "Oz" and New Zealand vs. American wineries in this audience vote/challenge
- **WINEMAKER DINNERS** -- Hosted at restaurant venues throughout the resort: The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua, the Kapalua Bay Hotel, Pineapple Grill, the Plantation House Restaurant, Sansei Seafood Restaurant & Sushi Bar and VINO; times vary

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**SUNDAY, July 10th**

- "**Sparkling**" Sunday - Sparkling wines and champagnes are served alongside mini-brunch items
- Chef **Michael Mina** Cooking Demonstration - Featuring the creations of Chef Michael Mina of *Charles Nob Hill, Aqua* and *Pisces*. This James Beard Foundation-lauded star will prepare sumptuous dishes paired with fine wines chosen by Host Fred Dame, MS
- "Around the World in **Eight Wines & Cheeses**" - Cheese Expert R. Kent Torrey of The Cheese Shop in Carmel leads a tasting of the world's finest cheeses paired with international wine selections of Host Fred Dame, MS
- **THE SEAFOOD FESTIVAL** - Hawaii's top chefs are featured at this feast for the senses. The bounty of the Pacific is complimented by the wine selections of Host Fred Dame, MS. Hawaiian entertainment tops off this memorable evening.

Kapalua Wine & Food Festival prices:

- 4-day admission - \$825
- Cooking Demos, Wine Seminars and "Sparkling Sunday" - \$100 - \$125 per event
- Grand Tasting & Seafood Festival - \$140 per event
- Wine Tours - \$30 per tour

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

From its debut as a small wine symposium on Maui in 1981, the Kapalua Wine & Food Festival has evolved into an epicurean extravaganza that draws thousands of visitors to West Maui each year. The four-day event is the longest-running festival of its kind in Hawaii. Event organizers hand-select the participating wineries and chefs, and ask that they showcase only their most revered, reserved vintages and products.

Frederick L. Dame is the first American to serve as president of the Court of Master Sommeliers Worldwide, and assists restaurateurs and hoteliers in developing their wine programs in his role as director of fine wine for Allied Domecq Wines USA. Dame is also active in the culinary arts, serving as an honorary trustee of the American Academy of Chefs, the honor society of the American Culinary Federation.

A short list of past participants includes Joel Aiken, Nunzio Alioto, Ted Balestreri, Bob Bertheau, Pio Boffa, Sam Choy, Dan Duckhorn, Leonardo Frescobaldi, Louis Martini, Robert Mondavi, Bradley Ogden, Rodney Strong, Jeremiah Tower, Ming Tsai, Joseph Ward, Alan Wong, Roy Yamaguchi and Alex Trebeck. The Kapalua Wine

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& Food Festival also features a silent auction with proceeds benefiting the Maui Community College Culinary Arts Program, the Art School at Kapalua, and Maui Preparatory Academy.

For more information, call toll-free 1-800-KAPALUA or visit the web site at [www.kapaluamaui.com/activities/events/kwff.html](http://www.kapaluamaui.com/activities/events/kwff.html).

**- ABOUT KAPALUA -**

The Kapalua Resort is a 23,000-acre master-planned resort community set amidst a working pineapple plantation on Maui's northwest coast. The resort is renowned for its three world-class golf courses -- The Bay, The Village and The Plantation Courses; nine residential communities; two premier hotels -- The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua and the Kapalua Bay Hotel; a villa rental program, The Kapalua Villas; a luxury home rental program, Kapalua Luxury Homes; a tennis complex; three white sand beaches; and a myriad of restaurants and shops.

Kapalua Resort hosts four signature events each year, the PGA TOUR'S Mercedes Championships in January, The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua's Celebration of the Arts festival in March, the Kapalua Food & Wine Festival in July, and LifeFest Kapalua in September. For more information, call toll-free 1-800-KAPALUA or visit the web site at [www.kapaluamaui.com](http://www.kapaluamaui.com).

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***Digital Photography Available Upon Request***

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