



## **RANCHO LAS PALMAS RESORT & SPA DEBUTS NEW CONCEPT AND MENUS FOR SIGNATURE BAR AND LOUNGE, R BAR**

*Executive Chef Sean O'Connell Introduces an Array of Artisan Beers, Gastropub Eats and Inventive Bloody Mary Offerings*

RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. (October 3, 2011) – Rancho Las Palmas Resort & Spa and Executive Chef Sean O'Connell unveil a fresh take on the resort's signature bar and lounge, **R Bar**, debuting a gastropub concept complete with artisan beers, tasting plates of comfort food and an unexpected twist on Bloody Marys with 10 different styles. A reverse happy hour is also being rolled out, breathing new life into the desert night scene.

Chef O'Connell and team have transformed the resort's popular lounge into a sophisticated pub with speakeasy elements serving craft-style beers from Stone Brewery, throwback artisan cocktails and a menu designed for sharing.

"We have been delighted with Chef O'Connell's fresh take on all menus resort-wide since he joined the team earlier this year, and we are thrilled to present this new pub-style concept to resort guests and locals," said General Manager April Shute. "The speakeasy approach to cocktails and the gastropub menu offers a unique experience and truly sets the resort apart from anything you'd expect to find in the desert."

With a new focus on sourcing produce and ingredients as locally as possible, diners will be privy to a tapas menu featuring palate-pleasing mini-tacos (Smoked Eggplant, Mesquite Barbeque Duck or Achiote Chicken), *Yellow Fin Tuna Lollipops*, "*Bloody Mary*" *Rock Shrimp Ceviche* and *Smoked Chicken Empanadas*. For guests craving larger portions, mouth-watering entrees such as the *California Striped Bass*, *Berkshire Pork Chops* or *Petaluma Chicken Breast* and a selection of pub-inspired sandwiches including the *Ultimate Grilled Cheese* crafted with artisan cheeses fit the bill.

Resort guests and locals will also look forward to an extension of the 5-7 p.m. Happy Hour with a "Reverse Happy Hour" from 10 p.m. – 12 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

The design of the stylish R Bar exudes a classic Rat Pack vibe enhanced by sleek leather seating, dark woods and a welcoming bar. Three flat-screen TVs, a pool table and shuffleboard table add to the sporty sophistication of this handsome space, making it the perfect locale for sport-watching enthusiasts.

### **About Rancho Las Palmas Resort & Spa**

The 444-room Rancho Las Palmas Resort & Spa is classic Rancho Mirage re-imagined for the 21st-century traveler. The resort's new offerings include stylish new guest rooms, the signature bluEnder restaurant, the stylish R Bar lounge, and Splashtopia, an exciting water playground complete with water slides, lazy river and sandy beach. The resort also features a 20,000-square-foot spa, a 27-hole Ted Robinson-designed golf course, a 25-court Peter Burwash International tennis center, four pools, and 41,000 square feet of flexible meeting and event space. For more information on Rancho Las Palmas Resort & Spa, call (866) 423-1195 or visit [www.rancholaspalmas.com](http://www.rancholaspalmas.com).

### **About KSL Resorts**

Founded in 1992, KSL Resorts manages eight time-honored resorts with outstanding recreational amenities including spa, golf, tennis and ski. Each is refined yet unpretentious, rich in legacy and genuine in service. The KSL Resorts portfolio of properties includes:

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- Rancho Las Palmas Resort & Spa (Rancho Mirage, Calif.)
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- Barton Creek Resort & Spa (Austin, Texas)
- The Homestead (Hot Springs, Va.)
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For more information, call (866) KSL-7727 or visit [www.kslresorts.com](http://www.kslresorts.com).

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