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NEWS 

JEAN-GEORGES VONGERICHTEN TO OPEN FERN AT THE ST. REGIS RESORT AND RESIDENCES BAHÍA BEACH Travel and Real Estate

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Bahía Beach

July 28, 2009 - St. Regis Hotels & Resorts and world-renowned Chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten proudly announce plans to debut Fern, the latest signature restaurant from his global restaurant company, Culinary Concepts, at the St. Regis Resort & Residences Bahía Beach in Puerto Rico . Now under development and scheduled to open in fall 2010, the \$172 million resort will feature 139 luxurious guest rooms and suites with spectacular ocean views, 25 Residences, the iconic St. Regis Butler Service, a world-class Remède Spa, oceanfront swimming pools, Fern, the restaurant and a recently opened 18-hole golf course designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr., marking the island's foray into the five-star-luxury market with its inauguration.

“Chef Jean-Georges at the helm of our new restaurant adds a star amenity to Bahía



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Beach Resort & Golf Club. His legendary cuisine is the perfect complement to the Bahía Beach luxury experience," said Federico J. Sánchez-Ortíz, president of Interlink Group, LLC, the development managers of Bahía Beach.

"I am very excited about becoming a part of the new St. Regis Resort, Bahía Beach in Puerto Rico," added Jean-Georges. "I love the Caribbean, the rainforest, the beaches and the warm people."

At The St. Regis Bahía Beach, Jean-Georges will blend his world renowned repertoire of distinctive dishes with traditional Puerto Rican ingredients such as papaya, mango, yuca and coconut. He will also feature the bounty of local fresh fish such as grouper, wahoo and dorado.

Born and raised on the outskirts of Strasbourg in Alsace, France, Jean-Georges' earliest family memories are about food. He trained in a work-study program at the Auberge de l'Ill and as an apprentice to chef Paul Haeberlin, later working with Paul Bocuse and master-chef Louis Outhier at L'Oasis in the south of France. With this impressive three-star Michelin training, Jean-Georges traveled to Asia for positions in the Oriental Hotel in Bangkok, the Meridien Hotel in Singapore and the Mandarin Hotel in Hong Kong.

It was during this time spent working and traveling in Asia where Jean-Georges developed his love for the exotic and aromatic flavors of the East. His signature 'vibrant cuisine' abandons the traditional use of meat stocks, instead featuring intense flavors and satisfying textures resulting from the use of vegetables juices and fruit essences, light broths and herbal vinaigrettes. Jean-Georges' culinary vision and execution have defined both professional standards for the industry and the way in which Americans eat.

Chef Jean-Georges is the author of four cookbooks, including his best-selling Jean-Georges. Since earning a total of 12-stars from the New York Times for his four New York City restaurants, Chef Vongerichten has received numerous culinary awards, including, "Best Restaurant in the World" for his Vong restaurant in the Mandarin Oriental Hotel by Robb Report, a prestigious Three- Star rating in the Michelin Guide, "Chef of the Year" by Esquire Magazine and "Best New Restaurant" and "Outstanding Chef" by the James Beard Restaurant Awards.

The St. Regis Resort and Residence Bahia Beach is set within a community committed to the preservation and enhancement of the environment and is adhering to the highest standards of sustainable and conservation-oriented development. An example of this stewardship is the recent designation of Bahía Beach as a Certified Gold Audubon International Signature Sanctuary, the first resort in the Caribbean to earn this distinction.

Designed to blend seamlessly with the lush foliage and towering coconut palms, The St. Regis Resort and Residences Bahia Beach's luxurious junior suites and one-bedroom accommodations will feature spectacular views from private open terraces of the sparkling sea to the north and the mountainous El Yunque National Rainforest to the south.

Adjacent to the site of The St. Regis Resort and Residences Bahia Beach are the first of 25 St. Regis Residences, Las Estancias, majestic estate homes designed in a tropical plantation architectural style on spacious lots overlooking the ocean, golf course, lakes and El Yunque. One of the first to purchase an estate home was Carlos Beltrán, superstar outfielder of the New York Mets.

In addition to the 25 St. Regis Residences, Las Estancias estate homes, the first Las Verandas golf villas were recently completed and are now occupied. New residential products currently under development include Las Olas oceanfront town homes and

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