



Capella Hotels and Resorts Celebrates Auspicious Debuts in Austria and Ireland – Announces Openings for Year Ahead

Impressive Early Distinctions Include a Michelin Star and 17-point Gault Millau Rating for Schloss Velden's Fine Dining Restaurant, Schlossstern

ATLANTA, GA – December 3, 2007 – Capella Hotels and Resorts, the new, top-tier hotel brand created by legendary hotelier Horst Schulze, has delivered on its promise to set a new standard of luxury in the hospitality market – one that invites each guest to create his or her own travel experience – with two highly lauded debuts. Schloss Velden, a Capella Hotel in the breathtaking Austrian lakeside village of Velden, opened in May and was followed in August by Capella Castlemartyr in Ireland's East Cork countryside.

Each hotel's opening has sparked a succession of exceptional reviews, culminating in a first Michelin Star awarded in November 2007 to Schloss Velden's fine dining restaurant, Schlossstern – an extraordinary accomplishment made all the more so by its timing just five months after the hotel's debut. The restaurant additionally earned an extraordinary 17 points out of a possible 20 from Gault Millau, which also recognized Schloss Velden's exclusive Auriga spa, a Capella brand signature, as the best in Austria.

"We are extremely pleased by the early excitement and accolades our first two Capella hotels have generated. To achieve such recognition so soon after opening validates our vision and is a testament to the caliber of professionals we have been able to attract," said Schulze.

Seven New Capellas Under Development

Next year will bring continued growth for Capella, as the brand expands its European presence and enters the North American and Asian markets. Spring 2008 will see the reopening of Dusseldorf's famed Breidenbacher Hof as a Capella hotel. Capella Ixtapa in Mexico and the brand's second Irish hotel, the Capella Dunboy Castle in Castletownbere, will debut in Summer 2008. Capella Singapore on Sentosa Island and Capella Pedregal, in a spectacular Cabo San Lucas, Mexico setting, will open in Fall 2008. The company also anticipates winter openings for Capella Telluride in Colorado and Capella Bahia Maroma on Mexico's Riviera Maya.

Each of these extraordinary new properties will adhere to Capella's uncompromising standards. At 100 rooms or fewer, they will offer the unique benefits of the finest boutique hotels, including superb architecture and interior design, privacy, individualized service and attention to detail – combined with the amenities of the world's great luxury hotels and resorts. Hotel staff operate as if from a sixth sense of the guest's needs, from the driver waiting at the airport, to an arrival at the hotel reminiscent of the manner in which one is welcomed to a close friend's estate.

An Impressive Culinary Debut

The remarkable accolades garnered by Schloss Velden's Schlosstern underscore Capella's commitment to provide its guests with exceptional culinary experiences, including the appointment of visionary chefs who are either established or rising international stars in each of its kitchens. Chef Silvio Nickol of Schloss Velden and Chef Roger Ohlsson of Capella Castlemartyr both hail from Michelin-rated restaurants. Classically trained, they take their inspiration

from the local environment to create seasonally changing menus that are as genuine to the destination as they are delightful to the palate.

In 2008, as Capella unveils new world-class dining experiences at its hotels under development, Castlemartyr and Schloss Velden will continue to enhance the epicurean offerings available to their guests, from cooking classes led by their renowned chefs to special opportunities to explore local culinary traditions.

World-class Wellness Based on the Phases of the Moon

Auriga, the signature spa of Capella Hotels and Resorts, also enjoyed strong debuts this year at Schloss Velden and Castlemartyr, offering unprecedented pampering and an exciting approach to wellness that draws inspiration from the phases of the moon. This winter, the experience will be heightened with a highly customized, intensive, week-long wellness program at Schloss Velden that will focus on sleep health and life balance, conducted by a team of leading professional trainers, nutritional coaches and medical experts.

One highly anticipated Auriga debut is slated for late next year with the November opening of Capella Pedregal. Bringing to life the vision of world-renowned spa designer Sylvia Sepielli, it will introduce Capella guests to a uniquely Bajan experience based on the tradition of Mexican folk healing, or *curanderismo*, in settings that will range from luxurious treatment “pods” to a *curandera*’s mountaintop cottage.

Capella Hotels and Resorts serves today’s top-tier travelers and residential property owners and is setting a new standard in the hospitality industry. Capella promises the unique benefits of the finest boutique hotels, including superb architecture and interior design, privacy, individualized service and attention to detail – combined with the amenities and activities of the world’s great luxury hotels and resorts. Capella, led by founder Horst Schulze, is a brand focused on customer choice, and offers choices that no other hotel company in the world can match. Capella is opening world-class properties in gateway cities and high-

profile resort destinations around the world, including: Capella Telluride (Telluride, Colorado); Capella Singapore (Sentosa Island, Singapore); Breidenbacher Hof, a Capella Hotel (Düsseldorf, Germany); Capella Bahia Maroma (Riviera Maya, Mexico); Capella Pedregal (Cabo San Lucas, Mexico); Capella Ixtapa (Ixtapa, Mexico); Capella Castlemartyr (Cork, Ireland); Capella Dunboy Castle (Castletownbere, Ireland); and Schloss Velden, a Capella Hotel (Velden, Austria). Learn more at www.capellahotels.com

* * *

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Melissa Pogue/Kathleen Cullinane

Middleton & Gendron, Inc.

(212) 284-9937/(212) 980-9194

mpogue@mg-pr.com/kcullinane@mg-pr.com