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AVIA NAPA OFFERS A CHIC AND FLAVORFUL WINE COUNTRY ESCAPE

Raise a Glass to Stylish Rooms, Savory Bites, Bouquets of Wine and an Enviable Location Plus Insider Connections

Wichita, KS – Located in the heart of up-and-coming downtown Napa is AVIA, a sophisticated and intimate hideaway known for its "local host" approach to hospitality. Opened in July 2009, AVIA Napa's chic façade conceals 141 modern and stylish rooms, a farm-to-table inspired restaurant, a cozy wine bar, and a spectacular second-story terrace.

AVIA's collection of rooms and suites is a contemporary departure from the more traditional lodging options typical of the Wine Country. Hickory hard wood floors, Italian-cotton matelasse coverlets and eastern white marble bathrooms are standard fare in every guestroom. Added luxuries wait behind the doors of the Master Tub Suites where in-room, tandem-size soaking tubs are veiled by a sheer and sexy sheath. Dual-sided gas fireplaces, enjoyed from both the bedroom and living room, are featured in many of these sought-after sanctuaries.

AVIA's mission, to help guests experience Napa's local flavors, characters and stories, is perhaps best illustrated inside The Kitchen, serving breakfast and dinner, as well as the newly-opened Riddling Rack, wine and barista bar. The Kitchen is in every sense a true "cook's kitchen" where a farm-to-table philosophy is evidenced by a bounty of fresh ingredients and innovative regional recipes. A massive chef's table with pots and pans dangling from above enables AVIA culinarians to mingle with guests. Breakfast favorites include chef-prepared omelets and organic yogurt parfaits with house made granola. In the evening The Kitchen feels as if you're in someone's fabulous vineyard home. Chef Chris Aken, who harvests herbs and vegetables weekly from the hotel's plot in the community garden, presents a creative menu showcasing small plate signatures like Portobello Fries with black truffle aioli and seasonal entrees like All Natural

Beef Ragout with potato gnocchi, mushrooms and fresh herbs. Selections are thoughtfully paired with wines that highlight limited production releases.

The new lobby-level Riddling Rack, named for the centuries-old A-frame racks used to cleanse champagne bottles of sediment, is becoming the living room of Napa with its mix of regulars and out-of-town guests. Palates are awakened with a menu of small plates paired with bubbles, wine and unconventional cocktails made with agave wine, sake, cane rum and rice-infused vodka then blended with Chef Aken's own mixers. The ambiance promotes laughter and lingering with sinkable sofas and intimate niches for two, where oenophiles can converse and compare notes on a recently uncorked vintage. The wine list highlights mostly small, wineries from California and the Northwest known for their limited releases and an impressive list of sparkling wines. Beer, both draft and bottled, features handcrafted brews including Napa Smith Wheat, a local favorite, and handful of imported lagers and ales with a pair of rotating taps that pour seasonal beers. In the morning, the Riddling Rack is abuzz with coffee hounds as the resident barista creates steamy espresso and frothy cappuccino paired with a selection of pastries and grab and go items.

For leisurely pursuits, guests can seek refuge on the second-story, alfresco Terrace with a chair-encircled fire pit as well as intimate tables with cabana curtains. Guests are welcome to bring their morning meals or evening wine the Terrace to sip and sup. Those wanting a workout have complimentary privileges at Exertec Health and Fitness, located next door to AVIA, where an array of state-of-the-art equipment, fitness classes, a swimming pool and childcare are available. For the ultimate spa indulgence, AVIA has partnered with Greenhaus European Day Spa located on neighboring Pearl Street and featuring a menu of soothing and supple treatments.

AVIA Napa is also an idyllic place to convene. Small to mid-size meetings and events, as well as luncheons, cocktail parties, pre-nuptial celebrations and wedding receptions, are hosted against a backdrop of tasteful settings, including the 1,900-square-foot Great Room; the glass-clad Sun Room at nearly 1,100 square feet; the 1,350-square-foot Kitchen + Dining Room, which can comfortably seat up to 80; and the 4,500-square-foot Terrace where up to 200 guests can enjoy a roving reception amid porch swings and cozy fire pits. Both the Vintner's Suite, with its spacious living and dining room, and the Harvest Suite, with its lounge-style seating, can accommodate groups from 6 to 15.

Central to AVIA's philosophy is its Indulgences, thoughtful touches extended to guests throughout their stay. The hotel concierge has partnered with local Tastemakers to offer insider tips from those who know the Napa Valley best. Also available are Insider Itineraries listing everything from local attractions, such as the Napa Valley Wine Train, and hidden treasures, like Shackford's Kitchen Store where foodies and local chefs scour the aisles for gadgets, to favorite tasting rooms were AVIA guests receive special perks. Other conveniences include, property-wide wireless Internet, complimentary Internet stations and printers, valet parking and a 100% smoke-free, pet-free environment.

AVIA Napa is situated at 1450 First Street in historic Downtown Napa. For more information, call 707.224.3900 or visit online at <u>www.aviahotels.com</u>.

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About AVIA

AVIA is a new boutique hotel collection from LodgeWorks, L.P. of Wichita, Kansas. Launched in September 2007, AVIA infuses sophisticated, locally inspired designs and an imaginative service culture crafted to bring authentic moments of discovery to discerning travelers. LodgeWorks has teamed with accomplished boutique hotel designer Colum McCartan and other industry innovators to create the AVIA presence. Highlighted by local flavor and an air of discovery, the AVIA experience embodies "the art of living well" that is sought by boutique hotel travelers. Four hotels comprise the AVIA collection, with properties located in Savannah, GA; Napa and Long Beach, California; and at The Woodlands, north of Houston, TX. For more information, visit <u>www.aviahotels.com</u>.