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**SPA L'AUBERGE OPENING COMPLETES \$26 MILLION COMPREHENSIVE
PROPERTY RENOVATION AT L'AUBERGE DEL MAR**

Tranquil New Spa Wraps 16-Month Overhaul of Luxury Seaside Retreat

Del Mar, California (March 9, 2009) – The all new L'Auberge Del Mar, managed by Destination Hotels & Resorts, completed the final phase of its comprehensive property renovation last week as the highly anticipated new spa facility opened its doors to guests and locals seeking signature treatments at the seaside resort. L'Auberge Del Mar launched the large-scale overhaul of the historic resort in November of 2007 and completed three tiers of renovations with the opening of the guest rooms, Waterfall Terrace Restaurant and Bleu Bar last June; the highly successful launch of their signature restaurant, KITCHEN 1540, last November; and the spa opening on March 5, 2009. The completed property offers guests and locals a place to relax in style with all the comforts of a casual beach atmosphere, the privacy of a coastal estate, and the refined services and amenities that have come to define the L'Auberge experience.

Designed by acclaimed architect Cary Collier of Blu Spas Inc., the all new 5,000 square-foot free-standing Spa L'Auberge will serve as an oasis for those seeking a pampered rejuvenation with welcoming spa therapists, soothing treatment suites and an overall beach cottage ambiance. The new spa menu, created by 11-year L'Auberge veteran Spa Director Jeannette Handson, will feature a diverse selection of professional treatments designed to soothe mind, body, and soul. Utilizing a unique collection of organic and vegan product lines, as well as exotic plant extracts from unique destinations, the tranquil treatments will distinguish Spa L'Auberge as a restful retreat. Ten cozy treatment rooms, multiple indoor and outdoor relaxation areas, aromatic steam rooms, and locker and rejuvenation facilities greet guests seeking the spa's unique range of classic and signature services. Treatments include massages, body wraps, facials, and their new signature Seaside Sojourns that feature ingredients and techniques from exotic regions around the world.

Signature restaurant KITCHEN 1540 opened in November 2008 to large-scale critical acclaim and praise from diners of all kinds. Executive Chef Paul McCabe, who has recently been named "Best Chef" in the region by Ranch & Coast Magazine and is consistently receiving glowing reviews from culinary journalists, is at the helm of KITCHEN 1540 and is responsible for its farm-to-plate concept. His menus, which will change according to seasonality, utilize the freshest seasonal produce, sustainable seafood and hormone-free meats, as well as an extensive wine list, full bar and specialty cocktails. Designed by renowned New York architect Andrew Kikoski, KITCHEN 1540 offers guests an elegant and contemporary take on the classic seaside restaurant; with white vaulted

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ceilings, an open presentation kitchen, sleek, modern table settings, a private dining room wrapped in wine-encased glass walls and an outside dining and lounge area.

The coastal resort launched the first phase of their renovation last June with the opening of all 120 guest rooms and suites, as well as the ocean view Waterfall Terrace Restaurant and buzzing Bleu Bar. Blending the intimate with the indulgent, the renovation introduced a number of luxurious elements to the resort, including a bright new open-air lobby, enticing guest rooms, refreshed meeting facilities and a new crushed shell pool deck with private cabanas. All guest rooms have a sophisticated new look, the latest in technological advancements and high-end personal amenities. Designer Barclay Butera of Newport Beach, best known for his work with luxurious private estates and homes, has produced a relaxing environment with all of the comforts of home, including custom-designed furniture, premium bedding, i-Pod docking stations, and 42-inch flat screen televisions. Additionally, all bathrooms were completely renovated and feature impressive walk-in showers and marble-topped vanities with custom amenities.

For more information on L'Auberge Del Mar, KITCHEN 1540 or Spa L'Auberge, please visit www.laubergedelmar.com or contact the resort directly at (858) 259-1515.

About L'Auberge Del Mar

L'Auberge Del Mar is located in the heart of Southern California's most picturesque coastal village of Del Mar. The historic seaside resort, managed by Destination Hotels & Resorts, has set a new standard in Southern California coastal hospitality as a result of its \$26 million comprehensive property renovation. The revitalized L'Auberge is an upgraded resort that is reminiscent of a welcoming, private coastal estate, including a redesign of its 120 guest rooms and suites, lobby, pool deck and more. The property also features a new restaurant with James Beard Chef Paul McCabe at the helm and a 5,000 square-foot, free-standing spa. For information or reservations, call (800)245-9757 or (858) 259-1515 or visit www.laubergedelmar.com

About Destination Hotels & Resorts

Destination Hotels & Resorts is a privately held lodging management company headquartered in suburban Denver, Colo. With more than 30 independent, luxury and upscale hotels, resorts and golf clubs, Destination is the fourth largest independent hospitality management company in the country. The company's portfolio features more than 7,000 guest rooms, 10 golf courses and 14 full-service spas. Destination Hotels & Resorts properties are located in key metropolitan and resort markets including Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Houston, Denver, San Diego, Santa Fe, Aspen, Austin, Phoenix, Palm Springs, Maui and Lake Tahoe. The company is a subsidiary of Los Angeles-based investment, development and management firm Lowe Enterprises. For more information on the properties in the Destination Hotels & Resorts collection, please visit www.destinationhotels.com.

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