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Weekend Packages to Cornucopia Go On Sale Today

WHISTLER, BRITISH COLUMBIA: July 30, 2007 - Accommodation and ticket packages for Cornucopia - Whistler's 11th Celebration of Wine and Food go on sale today, July 30. With 75 participating wineries and an array of parties, tasting events, seminars and winemaker dinners, this is the first opportunity to secure tickets to all events for the ultimate getaway in Whistler, November 8-12, 2007.

Two- and three-night packages include a ticket to Cornucopia's famous **Crush! Gala Grand Tasting** and start at just **\$189** per person. The first 300 people to purchase a Cornucopia package with their *Visa*® card will also receive a free Early Entry ticket to **Crush!**, a privilege that allows advance access to the open tasting room up to 45 minutes prior to regular ticket holders. More information and bookings are available through www.whistlercornucopia.com or 1-800-WHISTLER.

"The Cornucopia accommodation packages are always a terrific deal and definitely the way to go," says Michelle Payette, Manager of Events, Tourism Whistler. "You can choose to stay almost anywhere in Whistler, your ticket to the **Crush! Gala Grand Tasting** is included and the rates are simply unbeatable."

Payette adds, "Cornucopia's best kept secret is that booking your tickets through an accommodation package is also the best way to access tickets to all of Cornucopia's most popular and often sold-out events. In fact, it's the only way to purchase tickets to the legendary **Crush!**, after parties, seminars, and one-of-a-kind winemaker dinners before individual ticket sales commence on September 17."

The **Crush! Gala Grand Tasting** is Cornucopia's signature wine and food tasting event and has been the cornerstone of the festival for each of its 11 years. In response to high demand for this incredibly popular event, this year, and for the first time, **Crush!** will run on two evenings during Cornucopia - on Friday, November 10 and Saturday, November 12 - at the TELUS Whistler Conference Centre located in the heart of Whistler Village.

More than 75 participating wineries from around the globe are set to pour this year at **Crush!** alongside 14 fabulous food stations serving delectable morsels from a number of top Whistler and Vancouver-area restaurateurs. Unlike most wine tastings where crusty cheese and dry bread is the best on offer, the **Crush!**

"lights down" party atmosphere, scrumptious food, cool DJ tunes and unique Whistler vibe elevates this event to true "gala" status and is the hottest ticket of the festival.

Party goers can venture into the Grand Foyer during **Crush!** to visit the on-site liquor store, where wines poured in the tasting room may be purchased and, if desired, delivered to their BC Liquor branch location of choice. Also in the foyer, this year's charitable recipient, Whistler Arts Council (WAC), hosts the **Crush! Silent Auction**, showcasing a fantastic array of original works of art, ceramics, photography, jewelry as well as incredible vacation getaway packages, activities and adventures, wines and much more.

Detailed Cornucopia information including event schedules, participating wineries and restaurants, and an exciting list of celebrity chefs and wine and food presenters is available at www.whistlercornucopia.com. Cornucopia is a presentation of Tourism Whistler, the member-based marketing and sales organization representing Whistler and operating the TELUS Whistler Conference Centre, Whistler Golf Club, and www.whistler.com - the Official Site of Whistler.

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Note to Media:

Media accreditation will open in mid-August
Whistler publication-ready photographs can be downloaded at <http://mediaroom.tourismwhistler.com/>

*Package prices are per person, based on double occupancy.

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