

The Wine Cask Restaurant takes up residence at Fess Parker's Wine Country Inn

A culinary destination in Santa Barbara wine country

April 27, 2005, Los Olivos, CA — Fess Parker's Wine Country Inn & Spa announces the lease of The Vintage Room and catering operation to Wine Cask Restaurant of Santa Barbara. Owned by entrepreneur Doug Margerum of Margerum Wine Company, Wine Cask Restaurant is the recipient of 11 consecutive Wine Spectator Grand Awards. It brings exceptional food and dining service to Los Olivos.

The change, effective immediately, will include expanded wine cellar space, modernized décor and new executive chef Julie Robles who hails from A.O.C. restaurant and wine bar in West Hollywood, CA. Previously, she cooked at Lucques and Campanile with owner Susan Goin, and was part of the culinary scene in Seattle and New Orleans.

“Fess is really pleased to offer patrons of the Inn a world-class dining experience, commensurate with the world-class wine-growing region that is Santa Barbara County,” said daughter Ashley Parker-Snider.

The 21-room Inn, owned by the Parker family since 1998, will remain open during renovations. Among the improvements slated for May are expanded outdoor seating in the courtyard and patio areas, new dining room furnishings and enhanced catering menus. The Inn will serve breakfast, lunch and dinner, and all food and beverage employees become employees of Wine Cask. Bill Phelps will continue as General Manager of the Inn & Spa while Doug Margerum oversees the restaurant and catering operation.

“We are very excited by the long-term prospects of this new concept at the Inn,” said Phelps.

This Wine Cask restaurant, now residing at Fess Parker’s Wine Country Inn, joins Margerum’s collection of business initiatives. In addition to making artisanal Syrah, he owns Intermezzo Café, Wine Cask Catering and Wine Cask Wine Store. His expertise in wine will translate to the cellar where local producers will join “classics from the old world”, cult favorites and deliciously interesting ‘off the beaten path” wines to fill the racks, award-winning Fess Parker wines included.

By extending his reach to Los Olivos, he joins other notable restaurateurs who see this subset of Santa Barbara County as a culinary destination. The movie *Sideways* and the more relaxed pace of life have

made it a draw for tourists. Other premium dining in the area includes: Mare Blu, Los Olivos Café, and Brother's Restaurant at Mattei's Tavern.

About Fess Parker's Wine Country Inn & Spa:

Purchased in 1998 by Fess Parker, the 21-room Inn is a relaxing escape for locals and tourists. It is recognized as "One of The Best Resorts in North America" and is a AAA Four Diamond Award-winner. ZAGAT rated it "EXCELLENT" and patrons voted it into the Top U.S. Hotels, Resorts & Spas in the 2005 survey. The Parker family also owns the Fess Parker Winery and Vineyard, located along the Foxen Canyon Wine Trail in Santa Barbara County. The family-run winery, established in 1989, focuses on producing diverse, estate grown, Burgundian and Rhone varietal wines from nearly 600 acres of vineyards.

About Wine Cask:

WINE CASK is a premium food, wine, spirit, and service provider with restaurants, wine sales, and catering. More importantly, WINE CASK is a group of dedicated individuals committed to customer satisfaction. Behind all of our activities, we have a common purpose - excellent quality, service beyond commonplace, competitive prices, and aesthetically pleasing atmospheres. Our constant desire to do, and be, the best at what we do has rewarded our clients since 1981. We welcome you to enjoy all that WINE CASK has to offer, as we share our commitment and passion for excellence in the art of food and wine.

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