

## OLIVELLA EARNS COVETED FOUR-STAR RECOGNITION BY FORBES TRAVEL GUIDE IN OFFICIAL 2017 STAR RATING ANNOUNCEMENT

Luxury Resort Signature Restaurant Scores A Perfect 49/49 Points To Receive Prestigious Award

**OJAI, CALIF. (February 22, 2017)** — Forbes Travel Guide unveiled its annual Star Rating list today, naming <u>Ojai Valley Inn</u> <u>& Spa</u>'s Olivella, as a new Forbes Travel Guide Four-Star restaurant for 2017. This makes the luxury resort's signature restaurant the sole Forbes Travel Guide Four Star and AAA Four Diamond restaurant located between Los Angeles and the Northern California region. With the announcement of this distinction, Olivella becomes one of just 13 new Four-Star restaurants in the United States and joins the exclusive ranks of the 27 Four Star restaurants throughout California.

The Four-Star designation is bestowed on restaurants that meet the stringent and uncompromising standards of Forbes' professional and anonymous inspectors with rigorous testing of every aspect of the property experience, regarded as the gold standard in the hospitality industry since 1958.

"The dedicated team at Olivella has worked tirelessly to provide the best possible dining experiences that bring to life both the beautiful bounty and spirit of the Ojai Valley," said Alex Kim, Managing Director of Ojai Valley Inn & Spa. "We are very proud and truly thankful to have achieved this tremendous distinction."

Olivella presents an innovative concept that celebrates the flavors of the Ojai Valley through both traditional and modern interpretations of Italian cuisine. The kitchen is helmed by Chef de Cuisine Andrea Rodella, who marries the season's best ingredients with the preparations and techniques he learned as a boy growing up in Northern Italy. Signature dishes include *California Burrata with Heirloom Tomato Tartare, Oven Dried Olives, Garlic, Garden Herbs and Pistachio,* and *Rigatoni with Chef Rodella's Grandmother's Bolognese* recipe, which has been handed down since the late 1800's.

For a detailed explanation of how Forbes Travel Guide compiles its Star ratings, visit <a href="https://www.forbestravelguide.com/about/ratings">www.forbestravelguide.com/about/ratings</a>. For additional information on Ojai Valley Inn & Spa, please visit <a href="https://www.ojairesort.com">www.ojairesort.com</a> or call 1-800-422-6524.

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## About Ojai Valley Inn & Spa

Nestled in the bohemian enclave of Ojai is the historic Ojai Valley Inn & Spa, a luxurious retreat that has been one of California's most revered destinations since opening in 1923. Located just 90 minutes north of Los Angeles, the resort overlooks the unspoiled natural beauty of its mountain surroundings and celebrates the relaxed glamour of California's past to create an unparalleled resort experience that is quintessentially Ojai. The resort recently turned the page to a new chapter with the unveiling of enhancements that further elevate the resort experience while remaining true to its authentic spirit and include: the chic outdoor oasis, Indigo Pool; new signature restaurant Olivella and Vine; and the thoughtfully refreshed, historic Wallace Neff Heritage Bar.

Set on 220-oak studded acres, resort guests can indulge in an abundance of active and peaceful pleasures with a George C. Thomas designed golf course; soul soothing spa therapies at the 31,000 square foot Spa Ojai; instruction that encourages creative consciousness in the Artist Cottage; essential oil blending in the Apothecary; multiple pools and more than five dining outlets with settings that range from fast-casual to fine dining, recognized by *Wine Spectator* with the 2016 Best of Award of Excellence. In 2015, the Inn was honored among the *Condé Nast Traveler* "Top 100 Hotels in the World" editor-selected "Gold List" and was selected by the *Travel + Leisure* readers as one of the "500 Best Hotels in the World," affirming the Inn as a treasured destination that authentically combines the regions unspoiled spirituality

with 21<sup>st</sup> century luxury. For additional information and guest bookings, please visit <u>www.ojairesort.com</u> or call 1-800-422-6524.

## **About Forbes Travel Guide:**

Forbes Travel Guide is the originator of the prestigious Five-Star Rating system, and has provided the travel industry's most comprehensive ratings and reviews of hotels, restaurants and spas since 1958. Forbes Travel Guide has a team of expert inspectors who anonymously evaluate properties against up to 800 rigorous and objective standards in 162 destinations across 42 countries. Forbes Travel Guide is the most prestigious standard for luxury hospitality worldwide. For more information about Forbes Travel Guide, visit <a href="https://www.forbestravelguide.com">www.forbestravelguide.com</a>.

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