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**COSTA D'ESTE BEACH RESORT IN VERO BEACH
OFFERS 'CHEF FOR A DAY' PACKAGE**
~ *The Estefan's Stylish New Resort to Share its Coveted Cuban Recipes* ~

VERO BEACH, Fla., February 11, 2009 – Gloria and Emilio Estefan's chic Costa d'Este Beach Resort in Vero Beach, Fla. (www.costadeste.com) will let guests behind the swinging kitchen doors of *Oriente*, the resort's signature Cuban-fusion restaurant. Highlights of the "Chef for a Day" package include a culinary class with Chef David Rodriguez and a signed copy of *Estefan Kitchen*, the owner's new cookbook, available now at bookstores nationwide.

Costa d'Este Beach Resort, which opened in late-June 2008, offers 94 stylish guestrooms and suites, the area's only resort spa, an infinity-edge pool, cabana bar, high-tech gym and a convenient location in the center of the town's quaint Ocean Drive. *Oriente*, the resort's signature restaurant, features Cuban cuisine with overtones from Spain and Latin America.

The new "Chef for a Day" package – priced from \$387 per room – includes overnight accommodations, dinner for two, two chef's jackets, a behind-the-scenes resort tour, an autographed copy of the newly published *Estefan Kitchen* cookbook and cooking lessons by Chef Rodriguez – a Cuban-American who fine-tuned his Cuban culinary skills at the Estefan's popular South Beach hotspots. Additional nights are available starting at \$209 per room. The package is valid through April 30, 2009, some restrictions apply.

The intensive, yet fun two-hour class will focus on:

- Preparing the Cuban staples *Vaca Frita*, *Ropa Vieja*, black beans and sweet plantains
- Selecting the finest/freshest ingredients at you local market
- How to use standard cooking utensils properly
- Timing – how to tell when the meal is cooked to perfection
- Creative plate presentation
- Selecting wines to compliment the flavors of food

To make a reservation for the "Chef for a Day" package, see a travel professional, visit www.costadeste.com or call toll-free 877-562-9919.

Costa d'Este Beach Resort is operated by Benchmark Hospitality International, a leader in the management and marketing of resorts, conference centers, hotels, and Personal Luxury Hotels™. The privately held company, launched in 1980, is a founding member of the International Association of Conference Centers. Benchmark is a worldwide organization operating over 30 properties representing major metropolitan and resort destinations. Benchmark's headquarters is located in The Woodlands, Texas, near Houston, with regional offices in New Jersey and Connecticut. International offices are located in Tokyo and Santiago, Chile. For locations of properties and additional information, visit www.benchmarkhospitality.com.

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