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THE RITZ-CARLTON, PORTLAND ANNOUNCES WORLD-CLASS SIGNATURE RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE: BELLPINE

With Sweeping Vistas of the Rose City and Cascade Mountains, Bellpine Celebrates the Ingredients, Purveyors and Bounty of the Pacific Northwest



PORTLAND, OR (May 18, 2023) – <u>The Ritz-Carlton, Portland</u> announces the hotel's unparalleled signature restaurant and lounge, Bellpine, which launches in late summer. Perched on the 20th floor of the 35-story, 251-room hotel and centrally located in downtown Portland, Bellpine features panoramic views overlooking the city and the Cascade Mountain Range. Acclaimed Michelin starred Executive Chef Pedro Almeida has assembled a culinary team with strong Portland ties to bring the urban resort's culinary vision to life alongside celebrated Portland chef Lauro Romero, who will serve as the restaurant chef. Bellpine will take guests on a culinary and sensory journey through the rich landscapes and tastes of the Pacific Northwest.</u>

"It was important that the culinary concepts for The Ritz-Carlton, Portland reflect and highlight the incredible diversity in ingredients and culture found throughout the Pacific Northwest," said Executive Chef Pedro Almeida. "All of our dishes will incorporate at least one element indigenous to the area, such as rose water, wild mushrooms or Oregon Bay Mussels, along with the cultural influences and background of our incredibly talented team. Our goal is to create a dining destination where a guest can enjoy a casual bite on a weekday while returning on the weekend for a multi-course meal complete with wine pairings. We are excited to welcome both locals and visitors alike to dine with us later this summer."

Bellpine is a celebration of the Pacific Northwest. The restaurant's name comes from Oregon's rich, fertile, volcanic soil, while the décor is inspired by the State's natural beauty. The logo reflects the longitude/latitude degree mark with a tall B to connote the impressive 20th-floor elevation of the restaurant. Bellpine's design is evocative of the nearby dramatic Oregon coastline and sculpted as if by

the tides of the sea with inspiration from the Haystack Rock formations and the flora and fauna of the tidepools.

The culinary journey starts as guests are welcomed into the lounge and gather around the impressive, glowing hearth for intimate conversation and a glass of wine such as a luscious Pinot Noir or a crisp Chardonnay, two of the most sought after wine varietals in Oregon.

The Pacific Northwest menu will focus on indigenous ingredients ranging from the region's bountiful farms, lush forests and cool coastal waters. When seated at their table, they might begin the meal with a starter such as *Uni and Potatoes* with Purple Oregon Uni, Potatoes and Organic Egg. For their main course, guests might decide on two signature dishes such as *Potlatch Sockeye Salmon* roasted on an Alder wood plank with rose water and *Farm Rabbit* with Rabbit Roulade and Truffles. Finally, as the meal comes to a close, guests looking for a sweet end to an evening can enjoy a variety of unique, decadent and locally sourced desserts such as *Chocolate and Mushrooms* with candied mushrooms atop a brownie and mushroom ice-cream. Chef Almeida has described this dessert as "AMAZING" and one of the best he's ever created or tasted.

No Portland restaurant is complete without a focus on local wines from throughout the State, including The Willamette Valley, recognized as one of the premier winegrowing regions in the world. Bellpine's robust wine list will include a selection of offerings from many of the State's incredible wineries, which will include the region's flagship Pinot noirs as well as emerging varietals such as Chardonnay, Pinot Blanc and Riesling.

The culinary team is among some of the most acclaimed in their field. Chef Almeida brings 20 years of global culinary excellence to the role. Prior to joining The Ritz-Carlton, Portland, he spent over 10 years working at Penha Longa Resort, the acclaimed Ritz-Carlton property located in Sintra, Portugal, which earned a total of three Michelin stars among its restaurants. Prior, he also served as head chef of Midori, which under his leadership and vision, became the only Japanese restaurant in Portugal to receive a Michelin star. Prior to joining The Ritz-Carlton, Portland, Chef Romero was a Co-owner and the Executive Chef at Republica in Portland, which opened to instant regional and nationwide recognition, and was a James Beard nominee for Best New Restaurant in 2021. It was also named one of *Bon Appetit's* 10 best New Restaurants of 2022. After leaving Republica in fall 2022, he restarted his Clandestino PDX pop-up as well at Lil' Dame (from the Dame Collective), which was named Portland's Best Mexican Restaurant by *Portland Monthly*.

The highly anticipated Bellpine restaurant and lounge looks to share artisan cuisine cultivated by Oregon's clean waters, renowned vineyards, plentiful gardens, and roaming wildlife and debuts later this summer.

To learn more about The Ritz-Carlton, Portland, visit ritzcarlton.com/portland.

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ABOUT THE RITZ-CARLTON, PORTLAND

<u>The Ritz-Carlton, Portland</u> is set to open in summer 2023. This 35-story, 251-room hotel, centrally located in downtown Portland (S.W. 10th and Alder Street), offers uninterrupted views of Portland's skyline, the Cascade Mountain Range and the Willamette River. Highlights of the stunning 460-foot crystalline tower include a 4,000 square-foot fitness facility, The Ritz-Carlton Spa®with five treatment rooms and an infinity edge pool. Guests and locals alike will be able to dine at the hotel's 20th floor restaurant and bar overseen by Michelin-starred chef Pedro Almeida.