

Chef Matt Batey Promoted to Mission Hill Family Estate Winery Chef

West Kelowna, Okanagan Valley, British Columbia – February 17, 2009 – Mission Hill Family Estate winery is pleased to announce the promotion of Chef Matt Batey to Mission Hill Family Estate Winery Chef, effective August 1, 2009.

Matt has held the position of Terrace Restaurant Chef since 2007 and has garnered several important distinctions for the restaurant during this time, including a 2008 Travel + Leisure magazine rating of Mission Hill Family Estate Terrace restaurant as 'one of 5 best winery restaurants in the world'.

Mission Hill Family Estate Winery President Daniel Zepponi says, "We are thrilled to promote from within our team. Matt has demonstrated exceptional talent as Terrace Chef, winning over international critics. He will take us to new and exciting culinary directions in the coming seasons."

Matt will be assuming his new role from Chef Michael Allemeier who will be moving to Calgary, joining SAIT Polytechnic School of Hospitality as an instructor in its prestigious Professional Cooking program. Michael will remain at Mission Hill Family Estate until August 1 and will continue to offer his mentorship and experience to Chef Batey during this transition.

Proprietor Anthony von Mandl acknowledges Chef Michael Allemeier's enormous contributions to Mission Hill Family Estate over the past six years. "We thank Michael for the dedication he has shown to the winery and his achievement in placing us on the international map," says von Mandl. "We remain wholly committed to the symbiotic partnership of fine wine and the culinary arts and welcome Matt as someone who will take Mission Hill's commitment to organic, local ingredients and 'cuisine de terroir' to dazzling new heights."

Prior to joining Mission Hill Family Estate Winery, Matt held positions at the Wedgewood Hotel in Vancouver, La Belle Auberge in Vancouver, Catch in Calgary, and the Empress Hotel in Victoria. Matt is also a winner of numerous prestigious team and individual competition awards internationally.

The Terrace Restaurant is open from May 15 – September 15 for lunch. Guests at the Terrace enjoy culinary creations al fresco with breath-taking views of the winery's courtyard and vineyards and the spectacular Okanagan Lake. Dinner operations begin mid-May and run through to mid-September.

For an especially unforgettable experience, join the Chef's Table – an exclusive encounter beginning with a private, guided winery tour and a tutored tasting of three select wines, followed by a seven-course wine and food-pairing menu to tempt the palate. A six-person minimum is required for a Chef's Table, although Mission Hill Family Estate is able to accommodate up to 10 guests.

About Mission Hill Family Estate

Mission Hill Family Estate is world renowned for its award-winning wines, stunning setting and architecture, and its Cuisine de Terroir-based Terrace Restaurant. The winery's vineyards are located in five distinct growing regions of British Columbia's Okanagan Valley. Reflecting the origin and unique character of the Valley and the careful 'pruning to bottle' program, Oculus, our signature Bordeaux-inspired wine, represents the pinnacle in premium winemaking. Proprietor Anthony von Mandl and Winemaker John Simes produce elegant internationally acclaimed wines with New World flavours and Old World refinement from this incomparable lakeside mountaintop winery. Visit www.missionhillwinery.com for more information.