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Once-in-a-Lifetime Krug Champagne Experience to Open the 2015 Naples Winter Wine Festival

Naples, FL – November 5, 2014 – Olivier Krug himself, sixth generation head of the celebrated French House of Champagne, will lead the first-ever Krug Champagne Tasting and Seminar at the Naples Winter Wine Festival, providing guests with a rare opportunity to taste some of the world’s most prized cuvees. Taking place Thursday, January 22nd at 11 am, this inaugural event will also feature internationally renowned wine critic, founder of Vinous Media, and special guest Antonio Galloni, who will offer commentary and insight about Krug and the Champagne region.

“Since its inception, the Festival has offered guests unique ‘firsts’ and extraordinary experiences found nowhere else in the world,” said Sandi Moran, Co-Chair of the Naples Winter Wine Festival. “This year’s debut champagne experience with Olivier Krug and Antonio Galloni will be a once-in-a-lifetime event that people will talk about for years to come.”

Throughout the afternoon, guests will be dazzled as they sample world-class bottles of Champagne while Olivier Krug personally traces the 171-year history of the storied House of Krug. Among these prestige cuvees is the house’s pinnacle Grande Cuvée, which blends over 120 wines to create its iconic champagne, served in a white wine glass rather than a traditional flute to allow the effervescent wine to show at its very best. An exceptional multi-course lunch paired with Krug Champagne will follow at Naples’ premiere French restaurant Bleu Provence.

“It is my immense pleasure to return to Naples just one year after being named the Honored Vintner,” said Olivier Krug. “I hope that this year we will contribute even more to the Naples Children & Education Foundation, as well as deepen our connection with all Krug lovers in Naples.”

“I am thrilled to be moderating this seminar with Olivier Krug, whose family has represented excellence in Champagne for six generations,” said Antonio Galloni. “I can’t think of a better way to kick off this year’s Naples Winter Wine Festival.”

The exclusive event will set the stage for the headline events of the Festival, including private vintner dinners, pairing top celebrity chefs with some of the most awarded vintners in the world, such as Honored Vintner Marchese Piero Antinori. The Festival’s centerpiece is an electrifying live auction that offers incredible insider travel experiences, including an opportunity to attend the Order of the Garter ceremony with members of the Royal Family. Limited edition cars, an around the world trip on a private jet, and incredible wine lots not available to the general public are among the other amazing auction items.

The unforgettable weekend of wine and food all supports a great cause. Over its 14 year history, the Festival has raised more than \$123 million dollars to support its founding organization, the Naples Children & Education Foundation, whose annual grants have provided nearly 200,000 children with the services and resources they need to excel.

Tickets to this exclusive Krug Tasting and Seminar are available for \$750 per person for those attending the Festival, or \$1000 per person for the standalone event. Weekend packages start at \$8,500 per couple for festival tickets, with a \$20,000 premier package that includes reserved seating for a party of four at the same vintner dinner and under the tent. For more information about the Naples Winter Wine Festival, taking place January 23-25, 2015 at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort in Naples, Florida, please visit <http://www.napleswinefestival.com> or call 888-837-4919.

About the Naples Winter Wine Festival

The Naples Winter Wine Festival is one of the world's most prestigious charity wine auctions, bringing together renowned vintners and chefs with wine enthusiasts and philanthropists for a three-day festival that raises millions of dollars for underprivileged and at-risk children. Every dollar raised under the tent funds the Festival's founding organization, the Naples Children & Education Foundation (NCEF), whose annual grants and strategic initiatives have provided around 200,000 children with the services and resources they need to excel. For more information, please visit [Napleswinefestival.com](http://www.napleswinefestival.com).

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