

NZ Press Release – sent to Media

“Treetops Lodge & Estate – The Ultimate Oscar Getaway”

PLEASE NOTE - PRESS EMBARGOED TO 24TH FEBRUARY 2004

Rotorua, New Zealand -- Celebrity presenters and performers at the 76th Annual Academy Awards will receive in their Oscar gift basket a five-night stay at one of New Zealand's most luxurious getaway's -- Treetops Lodge & Estate. Treetops Lodge & Estate is an award winning, secluded retreat located in the heart of the world famed therapeutic thermal region, Rotorua, New Zealand.

Treetops offers the ultimate in world class luxury accommodation. A sanctuary and retreat of breathtaking terrain on 2,500 acres of secluded native forest and game reserve, Treetops offers seven trout streams, four lakes, over 70 kilometers of hiking trails, mountain bike riding, horse riding and the ultimate in tranquility and splendor surrounded by 800 year old forests. Guests can choose from twelve ultra-luxurious and unique suites and villas with valley and lake vistas.

Nestled amidst magnificent forests and valleys, Treetops Lodge & Estate offers a uniquely New Zealand experience. The Lodge was created to embrace the best of the country's pioneering past -- elegant architectural style, timber and stone finishes echo the beauty and simplicity of the great outdoors at Treetops Lodge.

John Sax, the creator of Treetops, said he is absolutely thrilled at the Oscar committee's selection of Treetops which the committee has described as **“the ultimate Oscar gift basket getaway”**.

John Sax commented:

“It is an honor to be the first New Zealand property accepted for inclusion in the Oscar gift basket. This is a great accolade for Treetops and will further help put New Zealand on the international map with great media publicity both before, during and after the Awards ceremony. It is a privilege to be included in what is undoubtedly the most prestigious gala event of the movie world and we look forward to welcoming the stars Down Under. Treetops is a creation of love and passion and I'm delighted that it will be shared by so many people with such fabulous talents”.

Treetops will also be honouring the nominees in the following categories:

**BEST ACTOR IN A LEADING ROLE
BEST ACTOR IN A SUPPORTING ROLE
BEST ACTRESS IN A LEADING ROLE
BEST ACTRESS IN A SUPPORTING ROLE
BEST DIRECTOR**

Those honoured include the likes of Sean Penn, Clint Eastwood, Keisha Castle-Hughes, Peter Jackson, Johnny Depp, Charlize Theron and Renee Zellweger

Treetops, in only its' second full year of operation, is a member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World and has already achieved many fabulous accolades such as:

Grand Award Winner 2004 – Andrew Harpers Hideaway Report

Decadent Find 2004 – Elite Traveler Magazine

Top New Lodge in the South Pacific– Departures Magazine 2003 Readers' Poll

For further information contact:

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Photos can be obtained directly from www.treetops.co.nz

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