MEDIA RELEASE

lakecrackenback
resort & spa

Savour Celebrity Chef Justin North's masterful menu at Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa

Fresh from his appearance on *MasterChef Australia*, celebrity chef Justin North is gearing up to satiate food fans and wine connoisseurs when he prepares and hosts a special dinner at Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa in the Snowy Mountains on Saturday 7 September.

Cooking alongside Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa's award-winning Executive Chef, Greg Pieper, Justin will prepare an array of pre-dinner canapés followed by three lavish courses accompanied by matching Frogmore Creek wines.

Tickets are $120 per person and bookings can be made by calling the resort on (02) 6451 3000 or visiting www.lakecrackenback.com.au.

The culinary event is a perfect way to combine gastronomy with a weekend of spring skiing and boarding, and Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa's assortment of resort activities and facilities such archery, tennis, 9-hole golf course, refurbished indoor heated swimming pool, sauna and gymnasium, along with the walking and mountain biking trails.

A special two-night winter escape accommodation package is available from $593 per couple. The package includes two nights accommodation, daily hot breakfast, a $100 voucher to use at the resort's restaurants or Day Spa (cannot be used towards the Justin North Dinner), free shuttle bus transfers to Skitube (located next door to Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa), 10 percent discount on Harro's onsite ski hire, 10% discount at the Day Spa and Activate and free use of resort facilities.

Justin, of acclaimed modern European fine diners Becasse and Etch, is the third celebrity chef to host dinners at Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa this year, following sell-out dinners from Pete Evans, host of top-rating television show My Kitchen Rules, and Steven Snow of Fins restaurant, Australia's most awarded regional restaurant.

The menu for the Justin North Dinner will be:

Canapés On Arrival:
Slow cooked WA octopus, citrus miso and coriander
Caramelised onion tartlet, warm goats curd and thyme
Poached eye fillet, watermelon, apple cider, pickled rind
Served with 2008 Frogmore Evermore Cuvée and 2011 Frogmore Creek Riesling

Entrée:
South Coast blue swimmer crab, young coconut, golden beetroot and lemon aspen
Served with 2011 Frogmore Creek Chardonnay

Main:
Slow cooked rangers valley short rib, smoked tongue, crushed Burgundy heritage potatoes, sweet confit turnips and fried crisps
Served with 2009 Frogmore Creek Pinot Noir

Dessert:
Licorice, raspberry chequerboard ice cream, candied pistachios, short bread
Served with 2011 Frogmore Creek Iced Riesling

Further media information:

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About Executive Chef Greg Pieper:

Greg Pieper has led the food and beverage team at Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa for over two years and during this time has been awarded a hat in the Australian Good Food Guide (AGFG) Chef Hats Awards 2013. Prior to Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa, Greg spent 12 years on the Tweed Coast establishing his career and cementing Bamboo Restaurant as one of the most renowned restaurants on the northern NSW coastline. Tipped as one of Australia's finest emerging chefs, Greg has been awarded three consecutive Chef's Hats for Bamboo by the coveted Sydney Morning Herald Good Food Guide, four consecutive Stars by the Courier Mail Good Food Guide, three consecutive Plates by Restaurant and Catering NSW and was named Chef of the Year for four consecutive years by the Gold Coast Magazine Restaurant Industry Awards.

About Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa:

Don't expect a run of the mill resort experience when you stay at Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa. The property features more than 100 rooms ranging from overwater lake view apartments to mountain-view chalets. Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa is located on the border of the Kosciuszko National Park and is just 15 minutes from the ski-fields of Thredbo or a 15 minute ski tube train ride away from Perisher Ski Resort. A free shuttle bus takes guests to the ski tube each day as the station adjoins the property. When you are not skiing or boarding, you can enjoy the extensive facilities at Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa including an impressive day spa which draws on natural nurturing therapies of the Snowy Mountains, two restaurants and an array of free activities including golf, trampolines, canoeing, tennis, archery and 14 kms of mountain bike and walking trails. Before you leave Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa you should definitely try a Segway Eco Tour where you explore the local bush terrain on a no-emissions personal transporter and discover the winter beauty of the 150 acres of land around Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa on mountain bike. Another must-do activity (not in winter) is to go river sledding on the Thredbo River where you will see the beauty of the region from an incredible aspect: floating down the river on an inflatable sled and experience just a little bit of an adrenaline rush as you negotiate the rapids.