

MEDIA RELEASE, EMBARGOED UNTIL 7.30PM WEDNESDAY 22 AUGUST

## **PLANS FOR WAIPARA WINE VILLAGE & DAY SPA EXPANDED**

The creator of the multi-million dollar Waipara Wine Village & Day Spa, in Hurunui, north of Christchurch, has today announced plans to include a Greg Turner designed 9-hole golf course and a limited number of lifestyle blocks.

Latitude Group is one of New Zealand's leading property investment companies and today's announcement is a result of demand from potential investors. The addition of the golf course and lifestyle blocks now makes this a \$100million-plus project.

The Waipara Wine Village & Day Spa will be part of the internationally recognised Accor Group's prestigious Grand Mercure Collection when it is launched in early 2009.

The luxury hotel will comprise 132 rooms, made up of a combination of hotel suites and two and three bedroom villas. Full conference facilities, a wine bar and restaurant, international alehouse, wine-tasting facilities, and a luxury day spa will establish the Grand Mercure complex as one of New Zealand's leading holiday resorts.

The plan is for the 9-hole golf course to start and finish around the Waipara Wine Village and it will have split tees so players can go around twice on different tees to play a full 18-holes. A practise green and driving nets will be included in the design. A Clubhouse, pro shop and locker room will all be included and integrated into the Waipara Wine Village complex.

Greg Turner is confident that the course will capture the essence of the developing Waipara region.

"By fully utilising the diverse landscape, a combination of alternate tees and differing approach angles, the course, though only covering 9-holes, will provide the variety of golf more normally associated with an eighteen-hole test," says Greg Turner.

"The inclusion of this Greg Turner designed golf course won't change the pricing of the hotel suites and villas as we believe it is a natural extension to the concept that has been developed," says Latitude Group Managing Director Ken Wimsett.

The resource consent process is now underway. It is expected that construction on the golf course will begin later this year so that it can open at the same time as the Waipara Wine Village & Day Spa complex in 2009.

Latitude Group has also confirmed that it is releasing 15 lifestyle blocks combining a 2000 m<sup>2</sup> house site and a share of a vineyard.

"There has been a clear demand for the total experience from investors and this delivers that. This complex has no competitors in the New Zealand market and will be good for investors, the Waipara wine growing region, Hurunui and Canterbury," concluded Ken Wimsett.





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