



**Nature's Circle of Life is Reflected
In Design of Costa d'Este Beach Resort**
~ Miami-based STA Architecture Oversaw Multi-Million Creation ~

Vero Beach Fla., -- The design scheme for Costa d'Este Beach Resort, the oceanfront hideaway owned by acclaimed singer/producer couple Gloria and Emilio Estefan, is centered on various organic geometrical expressions, namely the circle. Drawing inspiration from sunrises, bubbles and nesting sea turtles, husband and wife team Isabel Saavedra-Tragash and Todd Tragash of Miami-based STA Architecture successfully created a chic oasis that celebrates nature and heavily reflects the Estefan's own personal style.

The Estefans, who were personally involved in all aspects of the design process, previously worked with STA on their Miami Beach corporate headquarters and vacation home in Vero Beach. "Gloria and I have been thrilled with Isabel and Todd," states Emilio Estefan. "From a design stand-point, Costa d'Este celebrates nature and reflects the laid-back vibe and environmental consciousness of Vero Beach. It's one of the main reasons we first fell in love with the community."

"Partnering with Gloria and Emilio on the creation of Costa d'Este was a dream come true," according to Saavedra-Tragash. "While preserving some architectural components that were already in place, we created a fresh natural oasis that embraces the Estefan's affinity for old Miami."

Originally built in the early 1970s as The Palm Court Hotel, Costa d'Este Beach Resort was completely reconstructed. It is grounded by two five-story twin towers connected by one story which creates a "U" shape opening to the central pool deck and beach. Recurring arches and circle formations soften the architecture. The monochromatic exterior of white on white is painted masonry, allowing the building to serve as a backdrop for the surrounding palette of the ocean, sky and tropical landscaping. Interiors imbue a rainbow of hues from natural materials and textures, including limestone, teak, bronze and woven fabrics.

Sleek, yet sumptuous, the resort's 90 guestrooms offer a linear profile with low, straight-lined furniture custom designed by STA and locally crafted in teak wood. The distinctive, oval-shaped showers are lined in tumbled limestone and feature dual showerheads and built-in benches. The beds are dressed in luxurious, crisp white Egyptian cotton. Nine cabana rooms feature private beachfront gardens accented by fabric sunshades and furnished with a chaise for lounging and a table for dining alfresco.

Three expansive corner suites offer one bedroom, two full baths and a separate living area. A presidential suite features a master bedroom with private dressing room and bath as well as an optional second bedroom. Large sliding rice paper panels connect the suite to its living area, complete with a state-of-the-art audio/visual entertainment system. Its gourmet kitchen

and wet bar are ideal for entertaining in its dining room that seats eight or on one of four balconies, all of which offer unobstructed ocean views.

The Wave Kitchen & Bar, the resort's popular restaurant, is a destination dining and entertainment experience. The menu offers what fresh, local and fabulous, its bold flavors and textures are mirrored in the 85-seat eatery's thoughtful architecture and décor, which includes a "peek-a-boo" window to the bustling kitchen, reinforced by teak wall panels, slate ledger-stone and patterned, woven fabrics the color of aged rum. An owners' roundtable seating eight is located in the center while plush banquettes line the walls. The bar is laced with back-lit, hand-wrought ironwork and topped with a honed slab of concrete. Low-slung cocktail seating is positioned to optimize conversation and views of oversized plasma monitors.

The 1,400-sq.-ft. Crystal Ballroom, coined for its spectacular hand-blown crystal spheres that seemingly float at ceiling height, seats 80 people. Its substantial exterior wooden doors create a dramatic entry while backlit sculpted panels and herringbone-patterned parquet wood floors add to the elegant ambiance. The space also features a built-in stage and romantic pre-event patio.

The resort's bi-level Spa at Costa d'Este – the only resort spa in Vero Beach – features four treatment rooms and relaxation areas with sea-grass and Mother of Pearl mosaic-tile wall coverings, limestone surfaces, walnut wood furnishings and marble and wood-plank flooring. The Zen-like décor is calm and serene punctuated with the soothing and restorative sounds of rippling water.

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Costa d'Este Beach Resort

Costa d'Este Beach Resort opened on Vero Beach in June 2008. The chic beachfront property redefined style, comfort and luxury on Florida's Treasure Coast. Stylish accommodations, contemporary Cuban-fusion cuisine and discreetly attentive service, coupled with an intimate bi-level spa, fully equipped gym and stunning infinity edge pool satisfy the most discerning world travelers. Costa d'Este is owned by the internationally acclaimed recording artist/producer couple Gloria and Emilio Estefan and is operated by Benchmark Hospitality International. For more information, visit www.costadeste.com or call toll-free 877-562-9919.

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