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For Immediate Release

**Château Élan at The Vintage, Hunter Valley Opens With A Diamond, A Date  
And A 'Double-First'**

Robert Dimitriev of Shell Harbour, NSW, scored a double-first on his visit to **Château Élan at the Vintage**: he was among the first guests to stay at the luxury spa and golf resort in Hunter Valley, enjoying a two-night indulgence after the opening on 12<sup>th</sup> February. He was also one of the first to use the elegant surroundings in which to pop the question to his girlfriend...

"I think Château Élan really got Katerina in the mood!" laughs Robert. "I mean, it's so relaxing and they've done it out beautifully. On the first day we had a drink at the Clubhouse and played a round of golf. Then we ordered room-service for dinner in our suite, and after that we opened a bottle of Moët & Chandon and jumped in the spa..."

Regarding the often tricky business of proposing, Robert says he never had 'a plan' except he wanted it to be 'somewhere special' and he *didn't* want to propose on Valentine's Day. "I like to keep everyone guessing and Valentine's Day is just too predictable," he says. Just before midnight on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February, he asked the question. "We were sitting on the bed and I pulled out a 1.1 carat round-cut diamond. I asked 'So – will you marry me?' He's pleased to say Katerina said yes – although not straight away. "She actually stared at the diamond and said: 'Is that *real!*'" Katerina is currently having an engagement ring designed around the stone. Both she and Robert say they will be back to Château Élan – on 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2011.

**Château Élan CEO Erik Stuebe** said that the resort heralds a new era in luxury tourism in the Hunter. Mr Stuebe said Château Élan will provide a boost to the region and its economy as it becomes another reason for people to visit. "We aim to make Château Élan, Australia's finest destination spa and golf resort," Mr Stuebe said. "No expense has been spared and no detail has been overlooked in creating this jewel in the crown of Hunter tourism," he said.

He said the luxurious spa is one of Australia's largest and is dedicated to exclusive spa rituals, traditional hydrotherapies and social relaxation. "Château Élan is the first place in Australia, and one of only a handful around the world, where people can experience Terraké treatments supplemented by products from prestige group, Thalgo. As well as a comprehensive range of spa treatments there is also a Hydrolounge (a comfortable, fire-warmed 'wet' area) and a social spa area complete with bar and catering facilities."

CHATEAU ELAN HUNTER VALLEY  
- Ends -  
VINTAGE DRIVE ROTHBURN NSW 2320 AUSTRALIA  
TELEPHONE 02 4998 2500 ENQUIRIES@CHATEAUELAN.COM.AU More...  
WWW.CHATEAUELAN.COM.AU

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### **About Château Élan at The Vintage Hunter Valley, NSW**

Château Élan at The Vintage is Australia's finest golf and spa resort. It is located in the heart of the Hunter Valley. Offering a luxury escape for up to 200 guests, the resort comprises a spa with 18 treatment rooms, 20 super-luxury spa suites and a series of private lifestyle villas. The \$40m development, just two hours north of Sydney, opened in **February 2010**. It has been co-conceived by the group behind Château Élan in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Vintage is the Hunter Valley's premier residential lifestyle community. At its heart is a Greg Norman-designed course which is ranked #2 in New South Wales and host of the NSW Open. The Vintage has bar, conference and full dining and catering facilities; the Clubhouse is home to the renowned Legends Grill restaurant.

For more details, visit: [www.chateauelan.com.au](http://www.chateauelan.com.au)

Media enquiries:

Caroline Davidson  
Davidson Communications  
[caroline@davcomm.com.au](mailto:caroline@davcomm.com.au)  
+612 9907 0020

CHATEAU ELAN HUNTER VALLEY  
VINTAGE DRIVE ROTHBURY NSW 2320 AUSTRALIA  
TELEPHONE 02 4998 2500 ENQUIRIES@CHATEAUELAN.COM.AU  
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