



September 19, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Bishop's Lodge offers an intriguing history

Santa Fe, NM – Seeing different cultures and our own place in history are a big part of why people travel. At Bishop's Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa, visitors can see colorful reminders of nearly four centuries of Spanish, Native American and Southwestern cultures. The Resort is nestled in a lush, secluded valley at the foot of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, and has its own intriguing history for visitors to discover.

More than 400 years ago, the Spanish Conquistadors colonized land that Native American Indians had inhabited for more than 1,000 years. In the Taos and Santa Fe area, eight Native American pueblos and their soulful presence continues today.

In 1853, Archbishop Jean-Baptiste Lamy came to New Mexico by orders of the Vatican and founded a spiritual retreat for himself at what is now the Bishop's Lodge Ranch Resort. The quaint chapel the Bishop built 153 years ago is still in use and the surrounding buildings each have their own history.

The Bishop lived in modest accommodations but made a huge impact as he started the first schools in the area and a hospital and cathedral that continue to this day. After his death, the Pulitzer family of St. Louis owned the property briefly, seeking a healthful family respite in the dry, thin air of the high desert and built two additional lodges. Then a wealthy mining industrialist from Denver bought the property and named it "The Bishop's Lodge" and he and his heirs built on to it and maintained it as a family ranch resort until 1998.

Bishop's Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa is minutes from downtown Santa Fe and offers gracious accommodations, spa treatments, recreational and children's activities and sumptuous fine dining, complete with al fresco seating and panoramic views.

Rustic charm and contemporary features grace the 111 rooms in 15 well-appointed lodges. Well-known as a retreat for families, Bishop's Lodge can provide connecting rooms and oversized room options suitable for large families or groups.

Resort activities include horseback riding, tennis, skeet and trap, a heated outdoor pool, hot tub, and a workout facility. Children's programs and activities are offered through the holidays.

The SháNah Spa and Wellness Center opened in 2002, and was honored with **Condé Nast Johansens' "Most Outstanding Spa Award** in North America and Caribbean." "SháNah"

means "vitality and energy" in Navajo and the spa is steeped in Native American traditions incorporating natural healing remedies, herbs, and baths.

Bishop's Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa is managed by Prism Hotels whose clients also include Marriott, Hilton, Radisson, Embassy Suites, and Holiday Inn. To make a resort or spa reservation, call 800-732-2240 or visit www.bishopslodge.com.

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