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## *Wharekauhau Country Estate Wins Major Culinary Award* **Wairarapa Estate Awarded 2008 New Zealand Beef & Lamb Hallmark Award for Excellence**

Wairarapa, New Zealand (March 2008)

Navigate Oceania, the South Pacific's experts in authentic experiences in inspired destinations, announced that Wharekauhau Country Estate has been awarded the **2008 New Zealand Beef and Lamb Hallmark of Excellence** by the New Zealand Beef and Lamb Marketing Bureau. The 'Hallmark' acknowledges leading establishments that have consistently presented the highest standards of beef and lamb cuisine in the country.

Between September and November 2007, leading establishments around the country were anonymously assessed by the New Zealand Beef and Lamb Marketing Bureau, citing the quality in the preparation and presentation on beef and lamb main course dishes. Only a handful received the 2008 New Zealand Beef & Lamb Hallmark of Excellence, among them is Wharekauhau Country Estate.

Cited were two Wharekauhau signature dishes. In a letter sent by the bureau, assessors praised the ***Wharekauhau Texel Lamb with butternut puree and asparagus pecan salad***, for the well trimmed, flavoursome lamb, perfectly cooked with an emphasis on the lamb.

Wharekauhau's ***Wagyu Beef tenderloin with pomme rosti and Café de Paris butter*** dish was also recognized, noting the excellent beef, perfectly cooked and tender, and praised for its modern approach and visual appeal, with beautifully executed dish components.

"Overall these two excellent dishes are highly deserving of the Hallmark award, well done," said Felicity White, foodservice consultant at the New Zealand Beef and Lamb Marketing Bureau.

Marketing of **Wharekauhau Country Estate** is managed by Navigate Oceania. For more information or for graphics, contact Director Karine Thomas on ++64 9 307 3633, or email [karine@navigateoceania.com](mailto:karine@navigateoceania.com). Visit Wharekauhau's website at [www.wharekauhau.co.nz](http://www.wharekauhau.co.nz).

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## Editors Notes:

- **About the NZ Beef and Lamb Marketing Bureau.** Meat and Wool New Zealand is the owner of the Quality Mark and the NZ Beef and Lamb Marketing Bureau, and responsible for implementing the programme. The Quality Mark standards have been set by representatives of the meat industry at all levels through to retail, and the Quality Mark label appears only on meat which has achieved these standards, assuring customers that the beef and lamb they purchase is of a consistently high standard. Beef and Lamb carrying the Quality Mark must firstly be grown and processed in New Zealand. For more information, visit [www.nzbeeflamb.co.nz](http://www.nzbeeflamb.co.nz)
- **About Wharekauhau.** Recapturing the gracious lifestyle of a bygone era, Wharekauhau Country Estate is situated on a 5,000 acre working sheep station. Framed by the Rimutaka Ranges to the west and the dramatic coastline of Palliser Bay, the lodge is surrounded by an ancient forest, spectacular beaches, bountiful rivers and tranquil lakes that facilitate endless guest opportunities for recreation. With sumptuously furnished and charming cottages amid ocean views dotted throughout the extensive grounds, you can enjoy true country living in what is billed as "one of the most spectacular stations in New Zealand". Wharekauhau Country Estate has won a clutch of awards including: The Condé Nast Traveller Gold List (2006); Robb Report "100 Best Places To Stay in 2006"; Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report for 2007 and 2004; Wine Spectator's Award for Excellence in 2003, 2004 & 2005.
- **Wharekauhau Country Estate is a member of Navigate Oceania**, a new collection of 29 inspired destinations and unique experiences from New Zealand and Fiji's best boutique hotels and luxury lodges, an exclusive private island, villas, spa destinations, a luxury expedition-style cruise, and a private motor yacht. Our members are: **New Zealand** Doubtless Bay Villas, Cable Bay; Cavalli Island Retreat and Spa, Cavalli Islands; Paihia Beach Resort and Spa, Bay of Islands; Bay of Island Lodge, Bay of Islands; Oceanic Discoverer; Mission Hills, Bay of Islands; Waipoua Lodge, Waipoua Forest; The Boatshed, Waiheke Island; Stafford Villa, Auckland; Cotter House, Auckland; Seafields, Whitford; Maungatautari Lodge, Cambridge; Hamurana Country Estate, Rotorua; Kawaha Point Lodge, Rotorua; Treetops Lodge & Wilderness Estate, Rotorua; Chalet Eiger, Lake Taupo; Greenhill the Lodge, Hawke's Bay; The Millar Road Family, Hawke's Bay; Wharekauhau Country Estate, Martinborough; The Bolton Hotel, Wellington; Ohtel, Wellington; Claremont Country Estate, Canterbury; Huntley House, Christchurch; Elm Tree House, Christchurch; Wapiti Park Homestead, West Coast; Matakauri, Queenstown; Takaro Spa Retreat, Te Anau; **Fiji** Navutu Stars Resort, Yasawa Islands; Royal Davui Island Fiji, Beqa Lagoon.
- For more information on our experiences, visit [www.navigateoceania.com](http://www.navigateoceania.com).