



VANDERBILT
GRACE

Grace Hotels opens the historic Vanderbilt Grace in Newport Rhode Island and announces the launch of its fine dining restaurant, *Muse by Jonathan Cartwright*



muse
BY
JONATHAN CARTWRIGHT



8th April 2011: Grace Hotels (www.gracehotels.com), the family-owned award-winning hotel group is delighted to announce the opening of Vanderbilt Grace in Newport, Rhode Island.

The property was acquired in late 2010 and is the first Grace hotel in the USA. The former Vanderbilt Hall now opens its doors as Vanderbilt Grace, an exquisite mansion hotel which in recent years has been restored to its former glory. Grace Hotels promises to deliver its signature style, elegance, attention to detail and consummate service.

A magnificent Newport landmark, the Vanderbilt Grace comprises 33 luxurious rooms and suites, two restaurants, a cocktail bar plus a sumptuous spa and fitness centre with indoor and outdoor swimming pools. The building dates from 1909 and has a rich and glamorous history: it was one of many mansions in the area owned by the Vanderbilt family and today carefully combines original Beaux Arts features with the elegant simplicity that is a hallmark of Grace Hotels.

This summer will see the opening of the hotel's new gourmet restaurant *Muse by Jonathan Cartwright*, a fine dining experience created by celebrated New England chef, Jonathan Cartwright. Recently appointed as Grace Hotels' Group Chef de Cuisine, Jonathan Cartwright is developing exciting menus at *Muse* that promise a subtle combination of fabulous New England ingredients with a modern take on traditional European cuisine. Chef Cartwright is best known as Grand Chef Relais & Châteaux at Vanderbilt Grace's sister hotel, The White Barn Inn in Kennebunk, Maine. He has a contemporary flair that integrates his experience gained at previous positions including The Savoy in London, The Four Seasons Beverly Hills and The Pierre Hotel, New York.

Guests can expect to see some local favourites such as New England Clam Chowder alongside classic Cartwright creations including Pan Roast New England Pheasant Breast with Mushroom and Cranberry Puree, Braised Red Cabbage and Madeira Sauce. Locally sourced ingredients are central to the dining experience with lobster and other New England favourites taking centre stage.

Boasting a pretty colonial beach town location, Vanderbilt Grace is the perfect retreat for families and couples. Just minutes from the waterfront, Newport Rhode Island will satisfy those in search of culture and sporting pursuits such as tennis, golf and sailing. It is here that the tennis world descends for the ATP Tour and sailors flock for the many yachting regattas. Having featured in a number of movies such as 'The Great Gatsby' and 'Evening', Newport should certainly be a place worth adding to the list of 'must visit' holiday destinations.

The Vanderbilt Grace is not only a stylish venue for conferences, parties and special celebrations, but for romantic weddings. The sophisticated feel and elegance of this hotel provides the perfect backdrop. High-tech facilities are available for banqueting and conferences.

Rates 2011:

Rates start at \$360 incl. taxes for a double room per night on a B&B basis

Getting there:

Flights from London to Boston with BA, Virgin Atlantic and American Airlines
Transfers from Boston by car – 90 minutes

~ENDS~

***For further information please contact Emily Davis at Indigo PRCo
edavis@indigoprco.com or Tel: 020 7259 1140***

For hi-res photography of all Grace hotels go to: <http://gracehotelsgroup.fotoseeker.com>

NOTES TO EDITORS

Grace Hotels Group (www.gracehotels.com) is an award-winning luxury boutique hotel group that offers sanctuary and quality for discerning guests in the world's most sought after resorts and cities. The company's hotels have attracted critical acclaim since the first opened in Greece's Cyclades Islands in 2007. The company has a sister group of hotels in North America, US Hotels (www.ushotelsgroup.com), a collection of eight New England hotels, restaurants, spas and conference facilities which include two Relais & Châteaux properties: the renowned White Barn Inn in Kennebunk, Maine and the Windham Hill Inn in South Vermont. In 2010 Grace Hotels announced its first hotels in the Americas, the Grace Cafayate hotel and residential villas development in northwest Argentina and the Grace Panama in the heart of Panama City. Grace Hotels and US Hotels are both part of the Libra Group, a global conglomerate owned by the Logothetis family.

The Vanderbilt Grace, formerly known as Vanderbilt Hall was commissioned in 1909 by Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt. He donated it to the people of Newport soon after it was built. Alfred died aboard the ill-fated RMS Lusitania in 1915 while trying to save the lives of others. For most of the 20th Century the building was a hotel and before its acquisition by Grace Hotels it formed part of a collection of hotels and private clubs owned by British entrepreneur and philanthropist, Peter de Savary.