



## RELAIS & CHÂTEAUX CELEBRATED THE 2013 ENVIRONMENT TROPHY WITH ORLANE PARIS TO INKATERRA LA CASONA

**NEW YORK, NY (January 25, 2013)** – Relais & Châteaux, the prestigious association of the world's finest hoteliers, chefs and restaurateurs that has set the standard for excellence in hospitality and cuisine for over 50 years, presented the **2013 Environment Trophy to Inkaterra La Casona in Cusco, Peru with a cocktail reception hosted by Relais & Châteaux and partner Orlane Paris at the Maison des Relais & Châteaux in New York City on Thursday, January 24.** Relais & Châteaux International President **Jaume Tàpies** and Orlane's **Marie-Laure Fournier** presented the award to **José Koechlin von Stein**, President of *Inkaterra* and *Inkaterra* Asociación.

Every year, Relais & Châteaux joins forces with 11 prestigious brands from the world of spirits, fine dining and beauty, to award trophies that reward the diversity of our properties in their respective areas. Orlane Paris awards the Environment Trophy to properties who demonstrate tenacity, commitment, impressive initiatives and respect for the environment and the natural setting.

José Koechlin von Stein follows a conviction that caring for the environment is an obligation to tomorrow's generation. For over three decades he has supported sustainable tourism initiatives in Peru, namely through *Inkaterra*. In addition to vast ecological reserves, *Inkaterra* includes numerous stunning hotels, the latest of which is *Inkaterra La Casona* in Cusco. The Environment Trophy recognizes Koechlin's unwavering efforts to protect the environment, create local jobs, and respect cultures, customs and people. *Inkaterra La Casona* was built in a restored 16th century Spanish colonial manor and opened its doors in 2008.

The Relais & Châteaux 2013 Trophies cover the entire range of Relais & Châteaux values. By recognizing and celebrating these talents, the Association and its partners are able to encourage the pioneering spirit of excellence, which is the hallmark of a prestigious tradition of hoteliers and chefs. Distinguished honorees were awarded for extraordinary efforts and achievements including: *Kazunari and Sachiko Nakamichi, Beniya Mukayu, Japan, The Welcome Trophy with Moët & Chandon; Grand Chef Thomas Keller, French Laundry, USA, The Innovation Trophy with Nespresso; Colin Bedford, The Ferrington House Inn Restaurant & Spa, USA, The Grands Chefs Trophy with Taittinger; Nathan Rich, Lake Placid Lodge, USA, The Rising Chef Trophy with All-Clad; Roberto Vannoni, Hotel Raphael, Italy, Savoir-Faire Trophy with Glenmorangie; Lente and Adine Roode, Camp Jabulani, South Africa, Passion Trophy with Hennessy; and Lime Wood, United Kingdom, The Spa Trophy with Laurent-Perrier.*

Relais & Châteaux welcomed 36 new properties and twelve new Grands Chefs into their unique collection of 520 properties worldwide. This distinction promises the creation of exclusive new Routes du Bonheur, gastronomy that is celebrated more than ever before, and original and unforgettable experiences. With the latest additions, Relais & Châteaux continues its commitment to excellence, respect for heritage and terroir, and passion to promote a collective 'art de vivre' worldwide.

### ABOUT RELAIS & CHÂTEAUX:

Established over half a century ago, Relais & Châteaux is an association of the world's finest hoteliers, chefs and restaurateurs that has set the standard for excellence in hospitality. Relais & Châteaux has redefined luxury hospitality by emphasizing holistic experiences that transport its guests, taking them on a journey and introducing them to a deeper, truer understanding of the Art of Living. Relais & Châteaux is an exclusive collection of more than 500 of the finest charming hotels and gourmet restaurants in 60 countries. The prestigious family of hoteliers and Grands Chefs from all over the world share a passion for and a personal commitment to ensuring their guests are privy to moments of exceptional harmony, an unforgettable celebration of the senses. From the vineyards in the Napa Valley to the Fiji Islands, from the olive trees in Provence, to the lodges in South Africa, Relais & Châteaux offers all the stops on the finest route for discovering each special place and country. For more information, visit [www.relaischateaux.com](http://www.relaischateaux.com) <<http://www.relaischateaux.com>> .