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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**GRANDE LAKES ORLANDO DEBUTS WHISPER CREEK FABLES**  
*Orlando's luxury leader launches series of unique farm-to-table experiences hosted on its  
Whisper Creek Farm*

**Orlando, Fla. – JANUARY 31, 2017** –Grande Lakes Orlando is pleased to announce the next phase in its renowned farm-to-fork cuisine philosophy: Whisper Creek Fables, a series of farm-to-table experiences hosted on the property's 18,000 square-foot Whisper Creek Farm. The resort, comprised of The Ritz-Carlton and JW Marriott Orlando, has long been committed to sustainability and has continued to seek out hyper-local culinary initiatives to provide guests with authentic food and beverage experiences.

Now offering Whisper Creek Fables, Grande Lakes Orlando provides guests the chance to get up close and personal with their culinary side in a new, interactive way. The series will take farm-goers on a journey to learn how ingredients travel from meadow to mouth. Whisper Creek Fables experiences include:

- **Farm to Family:** families are welcomed to Whisper Creek Farm for an extensive tour of the grounds before diving into a guided farming lesson led by the resort's knowledgeable farmers. After sampling some of the fresh grown produce on site, families will enjoy a picnic lunch featuring ingredients from the farm.
- **Farm to Fare:** couples are invited to Whisper Creek Farm to handpick their favorite ingredients that will be transformed into a romantic dinner for two as part of a special Highball & Harvest ("H&H") Chef's Table experience at The Ritz-Carlton Orlando. Herbs collected at the farm will be infused into welcome cocktails that will greet guests upon arrival.
- **Farm to Foam:** Brewmaster Aaron Libera provides friends and groups alike with an overview of how Whisper Creek Farm supports Whisper Creek Farm: The Brewery at JW Marriott Orlando, showcasing which garden fruits and herbs fuel on-site beer production. After a visit to The Brewery, guests partake in a beer & bites samplings at Whisper Creek Farm: The Kitchen.

"Grande Lakes continues to set the bar high for farm-to-fork experiences in Orlando and Whisper Creek Fables takes this concept to the next level," said Jim Burns, Vice President and

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Managing Director, Grande Lakes Orlando. “We are thrilled to launch this new interactive offering to further our commitment to sustainability.”

This commitment is reflected in dining outlets across the property, from The Ritz-Carlton Orlando’s signature restaurant H&H, which features a Southern-inspired, locally sourced menu incorporating ingredients from Whisper Creek Farm to JW Marriott Orlando’s Whisper Creek Farm: The Kitchen, which brings the on-site Whisper Creek Farm experience to life. Whisper Creek Farm: The Brewery complements the resort’s local cuisine focus with a Cicerone-certified brewmaster leading the production of five styles of seasonal beer that incorporate herbs from Whisper Creek Farm. In addition, the brewmaster partners with Big Storm Brewing Company in Clearwater, Florida to produce the resort’s flagship beer, Surplus: a signature Floridian honey citrus ale naturally infused with honey sourced from the resort’s on-property apiaries at Whisper Creek Farm.

*Whisper Creek Fables is valid year-round, weather permitting, and is subject to availability for groups from 4-100; must be booked 7-days in advance; from \$1,000.*

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### **About Grande Lakes Orlando**

The 500-acre Grande Lakes Orlando estate features a 582-room Ritz-Carlton and 1,000-room JW Marriott hotel situated at the headwaters of the Florida Everglades. Guests at both hotels can enjoy all the facilities and services at Grande Lakes Orlando, including an 18-hole Greg Norman-designed championship golf course and the 40,000-square-foot Ritz-Carlton Spa as well as three pools including the winding lazy river at JW Marriott. Dining options feature the culinary mastery of award-winning chefs Norman Van Aken with Norman’s at The Ritz-Carlton and Melissa Kelly with PRIMO at JW Marriott, a leader in the city’s farm-to-fork movement. The resort’s renowned culinary program is further showcased at The Kitchen at JW Marriott Orlando and Highball & Harvest at The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, as well as The Brewery, an on-property nano-brewery and Chef’s Table. Furthering this farm-to-fork commitment are the on-site apiaries and 18,000-square-foot Whisper Creek Farm.

On-property activities include Grande Lakes Adventures Experiences offering kayaking, eco-tours on Shingle Creek, and a fishing school. Conference and meeting attendees have their pick of a selection of meeting space options located across 150,000 square feet that connects the two properties plus more than 100,000 square feet of outdoor space.

Grande Lakes is located 15 minutes from the Orlando International Airport, five minutes from the Orange County Convention Center and minutes from the major theme parks. For more information about Grande Lakes Orlando, visit [www.grandelakes.com](http://www.grandelakes.com). Follow Grande Lakes Orlando on Twitter at @RC\_Orlando and @JW\_Orlando.

### **About The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, LLC**

The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, L.L.C., of Chevy Chase, Md., currently operates more than 90 hotels in the Americas, Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and the Caribbean. More than 30 hotel and residential projects are under development around the globe. For more information or reservations, visit the company web site at [www.ritzcarlton.com](http://www.ritzcarlton.com), for the latest company updates,

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