

For Immediate Release

### **Chateau Villette Featured In Movie Phenomenon The Da Vinci Code: Luxury Rental Property Offers Opulence, History & Starring Film Role**

Paris – France (May 12, 2006)...Chateau Villette, one of two historically significant chateau properties owned by international entrepreneur and American leading luxury homes specialist Olivia Hsu Decker, is the centerpiece location of the global media phenomenon best selling novel by author Dan Brown and soon-to-be-released movie The Da Vinci Code.

Director Ron Howard talked about Villette in a recent interview: "At Sir Leigh Teabing's (Ian McKellen's character) estate, Chateau de Villette, many of the provocative conspiracy theories are presented. It is an important section in the novel. As a director who loves working with great actors, it was a terrific opportunity because here you had a crucial section with Tom Hanks, Audrey Tautou and Ian McKellen all sort of circling each other and debating these wild ideas that are really at the center of our story's mystery."

The property, located 27 miles northwest of Paris, is a sought-after rental destination for discerning guests seeking an exclusive and luxurious retreat, or a spectacular location for weddings, parties, corporate functions and other events. Visitors can now incorporate a customized Da Vinci Code tour into their enjoyment of the chateau, along with other specialized offerings. The Chateau Villette's sister property, Chateau Grimaldi, located in Aix-en-Provence, is also host to beautiful surroundings, luxurious amenities and a fascinating Mary Magdalene tour.

"The Chateau Villette is an exceptional property that soothes and nurtures guests in an atmosphere of beauty, history and comfort," said owner Olivia Hsu Decker. "The fact that the Chateau, featured frequently in films and commercials, is now highlighted in the book and movie 'The Da Vinci Code' reaffirms the singular appeal of this estate."

The 17<sup>th</sup> century property, also known as "Le Petite Versailles," was designed by famed architect Francois Mansart and carried out by his nephew Jules Hardouin-Mansart, creator of Versailles' Hall of Mirrors, the Queen's Staircase, Le Petite Trianon, and other historical French landmarks, for the Count of Aufflay, Louis XIV's Ambassador to Italy. Completed in 1695, the sumptuously appointed property was beautifully restored in recent years and offers visitors the elegance of deluxe 17<sup>th</sup> Century style, with modern amenities. Chateau Villette highlights includes:

- 185 acre formal garden: Designed by Andre Le Notre, creator of the gardens of Versailles and some of the most magnificent chateaux; this lush retreat offers guests beauty that will nurture the soul, providing both inspiration and relaxation. Host to two lakes filled with swans, ducks, birds and fish, the grounds also feature a spectacular cascade and fountain, including a bronze sculpture of Neptune. The private, serene grounds offer such outdoor activities as jogging, biking, hunting, pool and tennis.
- Deluxe accommodations: 18 gorgeously appointed, recently renovated guest bedrooms and 20 new bathrooms featuring limestone floors and counter tops, antique mirrors, chandeliers, sconces and a mixture of period antiques, decorations, paintings and comfortable new furniture.
- Weddings: Spacious chapel with reception rooms that can accommodate up to 250 people in a beautiful romantic setting; garden weddings can host an unlimited number of guests. Wedding coordination and catering services available.

- **Salon & Amenities:** The Chateau's centerpiece, the octagonal Grand Salon; along with a beautiful dining room featuring a 17th century carved stone buffet, double beverage cooling fountains and magnificent boiseries; a gilded music salon, a paneled library, grand stone staircase & entry foyer, three kitchens, a gym, billiard room, and equestrian stable.
- **Wine History:** Wine connoisseurs will appreciate the opportunity to view one of only two remaining 13<sup>th</sup> Century wine presses in existence, housed in the Chateau's wine building from the same period.
- **Gourmet Cooking Classes & Meals:** Guests with a discriminating palate will applaud the culinary art of 5-Star Mobil Chef Michael Cornu. Monsieur Cornu hosts intimate gourmet cooking classes, and personally oversees the cooking and presentation of the Chateau menu for its guests.
- **Wellness Retreat:** Offered upon requests, featuring yoga, exercises, massages, and Tai Chai as well as learning eating habits, cooking healthy meals and seminar on food combinations and fit for life information.

#### Exclusive Offerings:

Chateau Villette is available to work with individuals, corporations and travel professionals to custom-design a unique luxury experience. In addition, Chateau guests may enjoy the following offerings:

- **Da Vinci Code Tour:** 5 Night/6 Day Program, \$4,500 per person, USD  
Highlights of the tour include 5 nights lodging at the chateau's deluxe rooms, all meals, tour of all Da Vinci Code locations in Paris and additional "best of Paris" tour options available.

#### Da Vinci Code Tour Highlights:

- 6 days/5 nights deluxe room at Chateau Villette.
- Breakfast, lunches and dinners at chateau and in Paris.
- Visit Louvre at Denon Wing including Grand Gallery and Mona Lisa
- Lunch at Hotel Ritz where The Da Vinci Code book started.
- Visit church Saint Sulpice.
- Tour of Champs-Elysees and Bois de Boulogne
- Shopping trip and restaurants in Paris
- Optional tour of Versailles, Monet's garden at Giverny, Normandy, Vaux le Vicomte and other sights are available at extra cost.

The Chateau is also available for exclusive rentals in its entirety for \$55,000 per week. The customized activities such as fireworks, live music entertainments, costume parties and gourmet meal preparation by 5-Star Mobil Chef Michael Cornu are available at extra cost. The Chateau can accommodate up to 32 people, and host up to hundreds of guests for indoor parties and thousands for outdoor events.

#### **About Chateau de Villette & Chateau de Grimaldi**

Chateau Villette and Chateau de Grimaldi are both luxury rental properties offered by French Vacation, under the ownership of international entrepreneur and luxury home connoisseur Olivia Hsu Decker, partner and co-founder of Decker Bullock ([www.deckerbullock.com](http://www.deckerbullock.com) and [www.sanfranciscofinehomes.com](http://www.sanfranciscofinehomes.com)), one of North America's leading real estate agencies for exclusive, multi-million dollar residential properties. With ideal locations outside of Paris and the Provence region, the two luxury estates provide

guests with the ultimate in vacation, wedding and special event experiences. The Chateaux offer a myriad of cultural, gourmet, and nature activities, as well as special packages in celebration of Chateau Villette's prominent role in the blockbuster book and movie, *The Da Vinci Code*. For more information, call 001 (415) 435.1600, email [villette@ChateauVillette.com](mailto:villette@ChateauVillette.com) or visit: [www.thedavincicodeChateau.com](http://www.thedavincicodeChateau.com).

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