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THE WESTIN
VERASA
NAPA

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Basque Tapas and Regional Dinners, Prepared by Renowned Chef Ken Frank, Pay Tribute to Spain and France at BANK Café and Bar Inside The Westin Verasa, Napa
\$29 Dinners and \$5 Tapas Menu Allow Guests to Taste European Cuisine without Boarding a Plane

Napa, Calif. (September 30, 2009) – What happens when one of the top chefs in America visits Spain? He returns inspired by the culinary creations he finds there. Now, guests at BANK Café and Bar inside The Westin Verasa, Napa will reap the rewards of Chef Ken Frank's travels with two weekly menus that pay tribute to both the Basque culture and Frank's passion for French regional cuisine.

Throughout October, BANK's Unwind menu, offered every Monday – Thursday from 5 to 7 p.m. features "pinxtos," real Basque style tapas inspired by Frank's recent trip to Spain. Guests choose any three of the small bites for \$5, served buffet style as they do in Spain, while tasting wine from the weekly guest vintner. The menu showcases Frank's creativity with selections changing nightly. Offerings have included Piquillo Pepper Hummus with Fried Leeks and Peppers, Piperade and Boquerones, Shrimp and Ham Salad, Brochette with Smoked Duck and Pickled Onions, Salt Cod with Fra' Mani Chorizo and Padrone Peppers.

Frank also has created a series of Weekly Regional Dinners that pay tribute to the delicious and diverse specialties of various regions in France. These three course dinners are only \$29 per person:

- October 5 to 11, the Regional Dinner features a menu from the Basque region of France and Spain including a Bilbao Style Seafood Stew, Braised Chicken with Tomatoes, Peppers and Beans and a traditional jam-filled Gateau Basque for dessert.
- October 12 to 18, the Savoie region in the French Alps, where Chef Frank started cooking as a teenager, takes center stage. This menu will include the unique regional specialty Raclette Cheese served over Boiled Potatoes with Cornichons, followed by Poached Salmon Trout "La Mere Favre" and Coupe Glacée aux Figues
- October 19 to October 25, guests will be transported to the culinary world of Provence enjoying such offerings as a hearty Soupe au Pistou, Grilled Lamb with Little Stuffed Squashes "Niçoise" and Strawberry Salad

- October 26 to November 1, Frank's menu features items inspired by Lyon, France—a city with the reputation as the French capital of gastronomy— including the Classic Salade Frisée with Lardons and Poached Farm Egg, Authentic Pistachio Studded Saucisson Lyonnais with Potato Puree and Tarte Fine aux Pommes.

The Westin Verasa, Napa is located approximately two blocks west of Downtown Napa and is located near all of Napa Valley's attractions, including the wine train, wineries, and the Oxbow Public Market. For more information visit www.WestinNapa.com. For reservations at BANK Café and Bar call 707-257-5151.

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