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**The Peabody Orlando Brings California Cuisine and New Sophisticated Lounge to Orlando**

**Orlando, Fla...** With the recent opening of The Peabody Orlando's \$450 million expansion the hotel debuted two of Orlando's newest premier dining and entertainment venues, Napa and Rocks. Napa brings Northern California cuisine and wine country selections to Central Florida. While Rocks, a 6,000-square-foot upscale, sophisticated lounge, services both convention goers and local residences with its nightly live music and elegant ambiance including comfortable sitting areas, luminous lighting and an expansive outdoor patio.

Led by chef Jared Gross, Napa's menu is comprised of organic, farm-to-fork selections offering guests the freshest, most sustainable dining experiences possible. Chef Gross, a member of The Peabody Orlando culinary team since 1997, was recently promoted to chef de cuisine of Napa. Chef Gross and seasoned corporate executive chef, Karl Edlbauer, personally selected the finest produce, meat and dairy from some of the best farms in Florida and throughout the country as the source for many of Napa's menu selections. In addition to the cuisine, Napa offers wall-to-wall uniquely hand selected wines from Napa Valley and around the world. A wide array of bottled beers are also featured including import and domestic selections as well as hard to find microbrews.

The classic ambience and open floor plan of Rocks sets this lounge apart from the rest. Overlooking International Drive and bordered by over 6,550 square feet of floor-to-ceiling windows, Rocks offers an extensive wine list, bottled beers from around the world and passionately crafted cocktails infused with some of the freshest ingredients, including serrano peppers, cucumbers, watermelon, sage and dill. In addition to the exquisite cocktails, Rocks offers live music seven nights a week and a select bar menu prepared in the Napa kitchen.

"Napa and Rocks are truly unlike anything in Orlando," stated Alan Villaverde, president, hotel operations and managing director, The Peabody Orlando. "We're excited to raise the bar in

Orlando's dining and entertainment culture and look forward to providing our hotel guests and Central Florida residents with some of the most unique venues in town."

"Prior to opening Napa and Rocks, our culinary team traveled across the country to draw inspiration for the creation of our menu items and select wines from Northern California," stated chef Jared Gross, chef de cuisine of Napa. "Our goal is to share sustainable, fresh flavors with our guests who embrace the farm-to-fork concept."

For more information on dining options and menu details, please visit <http://bit.ly/a8csNG>.

*Editors' Note: Photos available*

**Photo 1:** [\*Napa, the Napa Valley wine-themed restaurant and bar \(Photo Credit: Preston Mack Photography, Inc.\)\*](#)

**Photo 2:** [\*Rocks, the 6,000-square-foot high-energy lounge \(Photo Credit: Preston Mack Photography, Inc.\)\*](#)

**Photo 3:** [\*Turtle creek goat cheese, beet salad, arugula, hazelnuts, toasted farmers bread\*](#)

**Photo 4:** [\*Cioppino - fresh fish, mussels, calamari, crabmeat, shrimp, fennel, leeks, spicy tomato broth, saffron-paprika rouille\*](#)

**Photo 5:** [\*Rocks Burning, Rocks Signature Cocktail\*](#)

**Photo 6:** [\*Napa Flower, Napa Signature Cocktail\*](#)

**Photo 7:** [\*Headshot of chef de cuisine Jared Gross\*](#)

**Photo 8:** [\*Headshot of corporate executive chef Karl Edlbauer\*](#)

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### **About The Peabody Orlando:**

The Peabody Orlando, opened in November 1986, is a staple in the Orlando-area convention and tourism industry and famous for its Peabody Ducks. The hotel has received the prestigious *Forbes Travel Guide* Four Star rating for 22 consecutive years. Located directly across from and adjacent to the Orange County Convention Center and in the heart of the International Drive entertainment district, The Peabody Orlando currently offers 1,641 ultra-luxurious guestrooms, 300,000 total square feet of state-of-the-art, flexible function space, a 22,000-square-foot, full-service spa, salon and fitness center and ten delectable dining and entertainment options. Peabody Hotels, comprising The Peabody Orlando, The Peabody Memphis and The Peabody Little Rock (all *Forbes Travel Guide* Four Star rated hotels) is a division within the portfolio Peabody Hotel Group of Memphis, Tennessee. To learn more, please visit [www.PeabodyOrlando.com](http://www.PeabodyOrlando.com) or [www.PeabodyMeetings.com](http://www.PeabodyMeetings.com), connect on [Facebook](#) or follow on [Twitter](#).