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JW MARRIOTT DESERT RIDGE RESORT TURNS UP THE VOLUME FOR PHOENIX RESORT DINING SCENE

*Luxury Resort Offers Authentic Southwest American Fare & Handcrafted Cocktails at New
Stonegrill Restaurant & Twenty6 Lounge*

Phoenix – Sept. 24, 2013 – The Valley’s resort culinary scene will be home to the trendy, new stonegrill restaurant and twenty6 lounge Sept. 28 at [JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa](#) in northeast Phoenix.

The resort reconcepted its former Blue Sage restaurant and Vista Lounge in addition to renovating the grand lower lobby for creating the new culinary adventures. Twenty6 represents the luxurious JW Marriott Desert Ridge being the 26th JW Marriott to be opened worldwide.

Stonegrill will offer southwest American fare featuring handcrafted plates and cocktails with an upbeat design in an intimate, cozy setting. An eclectic all-day menu will appeal to every taste with upscale fresh offerings including oven baked cage-free poached eggs with short rib, blue corn pancakes with blueberry butter and fresh watermelon prickly pear juice for breakfast; bison burger, a variety of tacos ideal for sharing including smoked free-range chicken, pork carnita and beef short rib; sweet onion barbeque pulled pork sliders and signature tableside guacamole for lunch; achiotte grilled tofu and corn lettuce wraps, Shetland Island salmon, Baja shrimp enchilada and apple wood smoked chicken are included for dinner selections. Tantalizing desserts include best of season fruit slab pie with salted caramel sauce, cast iron agave roasted apple crostata and local goat’s milk fudge blocks.

With a strong focus on local craft beers on draft, stonegrill will also feature a tequila bar offering 50 tequilas as well as tequila flights paired with distinct small plates and a selection of wines on draft.

Twenty6, featuring authentic, hand-crafted and inventive cuisine will offer charcuterie including cured citrus and chili salmon, prawns, roasted eggplant spread and crafted flatbreads of shrimp, cheesy bread, smoked chicken and a garden flatbread featuring the seasonal herbs and vegetables from the resort’s on-site organic garden. The bar’s front counter will offer fresh, small plates created to complement a variety of custom blended red and white wines.

A gelato bar will feature Tahitian vanilla bean, dark cocoa and wild berry gelato with the choice of scrumptious toppings including brownie bites, sea salt caramel candies, pistachio brittle, fresh

berries and the option to add a shot of grand mariner, kahula, or Bailey's Irish Cream for the ultimate gelato float.

Twenty6 will offer one-of-a-kind specialty cocktails from JW Marriott hotels and resorts around the world such as the Gin Ricky from JW Marriott Washington, D.C., the Brazilian Cure from JW Marriott Rio and the Lychee-tini from JW Marriott Hong Kong. Additionally, the lounge will feature 26 domestic and international wines by the glass.

Both twenty6 and stonegrill will boast an urban and regionally inspired design with weathered woods, exposed brick and sandstone throughout. Stonegrill will seat 225 in the restaurant and another 125 on its patio overlooking the resort's lush Sage Court lawn.

The 162-seat twenty6 lounge will feature tech connected chairs in its beautiful floor-to-ceiling window environment where all tables have panoramic views opening to an outdoor 100-seat expansive patio. Providing an intimate respite with inviting fire pits, decorative rod iron trellis with cooling system, shimmering waterway and colorful landscape surrounded by the majestic McDowell Mountains, the twenty6 patio is ideal for relaxing and enjoying the cool sounds of live entertainment Friday and Saturday evenings.

"Stonegrill restaurant and twenty6 lounge will bring a new breed of casual and hip elegance to JW Marriott Desert Ridge and the local dining scene," said Oliver Reschreiter, food and beverage director for JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort. "We plan to fill a void in the northeast Phoenix market for casual fine dining and entertainment and look forward to engaging with our local community to enjoy our new vibrant venues."

Open seven days a week, stonegrill will serve breakfast from 6:30 to 11 a.m. Monday through Friday, extending to 1 p.m. for an elaborate breakfast buffet on Saturdays and Sundays; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for lunch and from 5 to 9 p.m. for dinner. Twenty6 will be open from 11 a.m. to midnight Sundays through Thursdays, and 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays. An extensive happy hour menu will be offered daily from 3 to 6 p.m. in both stonegrill and twenty6.

About JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa

The largest luxury resort in Arizona features 950 guestrooms (including 81 suites), 240,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting space, 10 dining experiences, Marriott's first Revive Spa – a 28,000-square-foot facility – eight tennis courts and four acres of elaborately landscaped pools including the Lazy River with serpentine slide, two championship golf courses and Wildfire Golf Club. JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa is located where Phoenix meets Scottsdale, just 20 minutes north of Sky Harbor International Airport, with easy access to the Loop 101 freeway. Visit us online, [@JWDesertRidge](#) and [facebook.com/jwmarriottdesertridge](https://www.facebook.com/jwmarriottdesertridge)

About JW Marriott Hotels & Resorts

JW Marriott is part of Marriott International's luxury portfolio and consists of beautiful properties in gateway cities and distinctive resort locations around the world. These elegant hotels cater to today's sophisticated, self-assured travelers, offering them the quiet luxury they seek in a warmly authentic, relaxed atmosphere lacking in pretense. JW Marriott properties artfully provide highly crafted, anticipatory experiences that are reflective of their locale so that their guests have the time to focus on what is most important to them. Currently, there are 61 JW Marriott hotels in 24 countries; by 2016 the portfolio is expected to encompass 88 properties in 31 countries. Visit us online, jwmarriott.com, [@jwmarriott](#) and [facebook.com/JWMarriott](https://www.facebook.com/JWMarriott)