



## **KESWICK HALL**

*Keswick (Charlottesville), Virginia*

### **FACT SHEET**

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Named among "The World's Best Places to Stay" in *Condé Nast Traveler* magazine's Gold List Awards and chosen by *Departure Magazine* readers as one of the Top 25 Boutique Hotels in the US and Canada, Keswick Hall's Italianate architecture, pastoral green setting, refined ambiance, and elegant décor are reflective of 19th century American affluence. Keswick Hall offers a host of modern conveniences, including exquisite accommodations, award-winning cuisine, a range of recreational activities, and warm, personal service.

The 600-acre Keswick Estate provides the ideal setting for Keswick Hall and its Club, an exhilarative golf and pampering facility, offering an indoor/outdoor pool and Jacuzzi, fitness & exercise center, a full complement of massage and beauty treatments, an informal dining room, lounge and bar, and an 18-hole Arnold Palmer designed signature golf course.

#### **LOCATION**

This Tuscan-style villa is in the heart of Virginia hunt country, bordering the Blue Ridge Mountains in historic Charlottesville, the University of Virginia, Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, and a variety of award-winning wineries. Located amid the center of the area Mr. Jefferson described as "The Eden of the United States," Keswick Hall at Monticello is just six miles east of Charlottesville and five miles from Monticello.

Keswick Hall proudly rests on 600-acres of lush Virginia countryside known as Keswick Estate. The 48-room Keswick Hall is a luxury inn which also hosts the private Keswick Club featuring an 18-hole, 6,507-yard Arnold Palmer signature golf course, three pools (an infinity edge lounging pool on the piazza level of the hotel, an indoor/outdoor pool at the club house, and an Olympic-size lap pool at the tennis center), a fitness center complete with spa, pro shop, tennis complex and dining facilities. The property also includes approximately 126 planned (minimum one-acre) home sites, aptly named Keswick Estate.

#### **ACCESS**

Delta, United Express, US Airways, Colgan Air and Continental serve the Charlottesville Albemarle Airport. Piedmont Aviation Service, adjacent to this facility, is available for private planes and jets. The property also features a private helipad. By car, Keswick Hall at Monticello is only 1 hour from Richmond, 1.5 hours from Washington and 2.5 hours from Baltimore.

#### **GUESTROOMS**

No two of Keswick Hall's 48 guest rooms are alike. Each is subtly themed (aviation, fishing, maps, the circus, tennis and music) and feature antiques, plush furnishing, linen and fabrics featuring heirloom patterns. Facing formal gardens at the front and the golf course and lush rolling fields at the back, many rooms feature canopied four-poster beds plumped with comforters and feather pillows, bergere club chairs, personal collectibles, hand-painted armoires, overstuffed ottomans, antique furnishings and fitted carpets with Aubusson designs.

Generously sized bathrooms feature separate, glass-enclosed showers, oversized or claw-footed tubs, antique porcelain bathroom sets, heated towel racks, hair-dryers, and a selection of bath amenities, including herbal bath salts, hair treatments, body lotions, cotton swabs and shower caps.

Nightly turndown service features sumptuous butter cookies served on antique china.

## **PUBLIC ROOMS**

In keeping with the grandest and most authentic elegant estates, public rooms at Keswick Hall serve different purposes. The Crawford Lounge, formerly the entrance hall for Villa Crawford, is an ideal setting for cocktails or afternoon tea. The Morning Room, the cozy Villa Crawford and the Snooker Room are places where guests can enjoy afternoon tea, a midnight game and glass or two of port or sherry before turning in. The library with its roaring fire now houses over 400 books by Virginians or about Virginia. Furnishings in these rooms are a blend of original antiques and period inspired pieces.

Overstuffed furniture with fringes and tassels, assorted antiques, cherished paintings, sculptures, and tables stacked with art books and rare editions offer travelers a welcome respite from their hectic lives. Blazing fires in warm hearths, porcelain bowls of granny smiths, silver dishes of nuts atop heirloom buffets, and decanters gleaming with colorful liqueurs complete the warm and inviting setting.

## **DINING**

**Fossett's** – Opened in June of 2004, Keswick Hall's elegant yet casual evening restaurant features expansive three-sided floor to ceiling windows with spectacular open views of the estate's pristine landscape and the Southwest mountains. The interiors, designed to be warm and refreshing, are accented with historical Virginia artwork, custom designed furniture, and original hand-painted murals. During the mild weather months, Fossett's will also offer al fresco terrace seating overlooking the rolling fairways of the estate's Arnold Palmer signature golf course. Chef Craig Hartman and his staff offer a culinary experience that is approachable, contemporary, and innovative. Fossett's seasonal menu is influenced by the chef's own version of American Regional cuisine and emphasizes his freedom to experiment with distinctive flavors and fresh, local ingredients.

Fossett's is named in honor of Thomas Jefferson's chief cook at Monticello, Edith Fossett (1787-1854). Mrs. Fossett held one of the most responsible positions in Jefferson's household during his retirement years. Mrs. Fossett learned the art of French cooking from Honore Julien, Head Chef, and Etienne Lemaire, the maitre de hotel, while serving in the White House during Jefferson's presidential years. The restaurant is open seven days a week for lunch and is closed for dinner on Tuesdays. Breakfast is served from 7:30 a. m. to 10 a.m. on weekdays and 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Brunch is served on Sunday from 11 a.m to 2 p.m. and dinner is served from 6 p.m. – 9:30 p.m., six days a week. Reservations and smart casual attire are recommended for dinner.

**Fossett's Bar** – Located adjacent to the restaurant, the bar features specialty and signature drinks such as the Cucumber Rickey, East Gate Blood Orange Martini and Fairway Ginger Tonic. Fossett's Bar features an exquisite U-bar, terrace and fireside seating, and live music and is open 5 pm – 11 pm daily, with food served until 9:30 p.m.

**The Palmer Room** – Located only steps from Keswick Hall, The Palmer Room at Keswick Club offers casual dining for guests of the Inn and club members. With seating for 50, it provides a cozy setting with expansive views of the golf course for lunch and dinner. Entrees showcase local products, seafood and Asian inspired cuisine including Local Hubbard Squash Bisque, Asian Chopped Salad, Tequila – Lime – Shiso Chicken and Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes "Delmarva". The Palmer Room is open daily for lunch from 11:30 am – 3:00 pm and on Sundays the lunch menu is available until 8:00 pm. Dinner is served Tuesday through Saturday from 5:30 pm – 9:00 pm with a full dinner menu available. On Mondays, from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm the Palmer Room Bar offers beverage service.

**FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES:**

Keswick Hall at Monticello combined with the offerings of its Club, provides matchless recreation and relaxation, including:

- ◆ An 18-hole Arnold Palmer designed signature golf course.
- ◆ Driving range
- ◆ Private golf lessons
- ◆ Tennis Center featuring five lit tennis courts (three clay, two hard surface), pro shop equipment for sale, rental, demo, two computerized Playmate ball machines, and ladies and men's locker rooms. Full time tennis professional on staff.
- ◆ Three Pools
  - Indoor/outdoor swimming pool at Club House
  - Olympic sized outdoor Lap pool at tennis center
  - Infinity edge lounging pool off terrace of inn.
- ◆ Full service spa offering massage, facials, manicure, pedicures, body wraps, etc
- ◆ Fitness facility with free weights, weight machines cardiovascular equipment, regular schedule of yoga, power walking/hiking on the estate and fitness classes. Personal training available.
- ◆ Retail shop (for golf and leisure wear)
- ◆ Members' lounge (guests are extended access and club locker for duration of stay.)
- ◆ Complimentary bicycles
- ◆ Fishing at property's Broadmoore Lake (fly or cast)
- ◆ Hot air balloon tours departing from the property provide a birds-eye view of the exquisite Virginia countryside.
- ◆ On the main floor of the hotel is a collection of over 400 books by Virginians or about Virginia covering topics that include history, memoirs, photography, cookbooks, nature, and fiction.
- ◆ Antique snooker table

**Off-Property:**

Horseback riding, skeet shooting, fly fishing in nearby streams, hiking and mountain biking in the Blue Ridge Mountains, and whitewater rafting on the James River can all be easily arranged. During the winter months, downhill skiing is available at Wintergreen Resort a mere 55 minute drive away.

Tours of nearby attractions to Monticello (home of President Thomas Jefferson); Ash-Lawn-Highland (home of President James Monroe); Montpelier (home of President James Madison); downtown historic Charlottesville; local vineyards - Barboursville, Horton, Jefferson and Montedomaine; famous Civil and Revolutionary War battlegrounds; University of Virginia, Rotunda and Academical Village, horse farms, and more can easily be arranged.

**GUEST SERVICES:** A dedicated staff is committed to the anticipation and fulfillment of guests' needs, with butler style service, including:

- ◆ 24-hour concierge service and valet parking
- ◆ 24-hour room service, including hospitality services
- ◆ In-room safes
- ◆ High-speed internet access
- ◆ Valet Service
- ◆ Laundry/dry cleaning and shoe shine
- ◆ Multi-lingual staff
- ◆ Customized site-seeing itineraries/tours
- ◆ The arrangement of baby sitting services
- ◆ Temporary Club Membership for the duration of their stay to Keswick Club providing access to private golf course, tennis centre, fitness facilities, club house and full service spa.

## MEETING FACILITIES

Keswick Hall has more than 7,000-square feet of meeting and conference space, making it one of the best settings for business and social gatherings from eight to 300. With its naturally beautiful surroundings, luxurious guestrooms, exciting leisure facilities and sophisticated technology, this year-round venue is rated among America's best for social gatherings and events, including board meetings, executive retreats, corporate gatherings and weddings.

The Boardroom - This 837-square foot room is designed for ultimate comfort and productivity, featuring rich, wood paneled walls and advanced telecommunications technology, allowing for computer image projection, teleconferencing, video/slide presentations and controlled lighting that seats 34 conference-style or 48 theatre-style.

The 600-square foot Garden Room, with its terra cotta tile, wicker furnishings and French doors leading to the lower terrace overlooks the herb garden and manicured greens, is the perfect setting for private dining and is able to host 24 conference-style or 24 theatre-style.

The main ballroom of Keswick Hall can seat up to 200, and offers more than 3,000-square feet of refined appointments such as beveled mirrors, decorative wainscoting, candlestick sconces and European frescoes. Overlooking formal gardens, for smaller groups, the ballroom can be divided into three equal meeting rooms, while the close proximately to the Boardroom and Garden Room, allow for endless meeting design configurations.

The original west wing of Keswick Hall features heart-of-pine flooring and four distinctly different public rooms, with a combined area of 3,326-square feet. The four distinct rooms are the Library, featuring over 400 books about Virginia or written by Virginian authors, The Tea Room showcasing an antique snooker table, The Morning Room with plush seating and French doors leading to a verandah offering spectacular views of the golf course, and the Villa Crawford Room featuring period antiques and a grand piano for guest's musical enjoyment.

In addition, the grounds of the estate provide numerous options for outdoor dining and special events ranging from champagne cocktails and putting competitions to a banquet on the croquet lawn.

## AWARDS

Keswick Hall's award winning history includes:

- ◆ *Travel + Leisure* magazine's "Top 500 Best Hotels in the World"
- ◆ *Condé Nast Traveler's* "The World's Best Place to Stay" Gold List, "The Best Place to Stay in Virginia" Gold List, "Top 25 North American Small Hotels" Gold List, "Best 500 Hotels in the World" Gold List and "Top 25 Small Hotels in the World" Gold List
- ◆ AAA Four Diamond Award
- ◆ The Mobil Four Star designation
- ◆ *Zagat's* "Top U.S. Hotels, Resorts & Spas" and the "12th Best Country Hotel"
- ◆ *Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report* "Top 20 United States Resort Hideaways"
- ◆ *Wine Spectator's* "Award of Excellence"

## 2009 Published Rates (double occupancy):

Master Suites:	\$775 - \$975
Junior Suite:	\$675
State Room with Balcony:	\$675
State Room:	\$575

Signature Room with Balcony: \$475  
Signature Room: \$425  
Hall Guest Room: \$375

## **KESWICK ESTATE**

When Orient-Express Hotels purchased the 600-acre Keswick Estate in 1999, they knew that the property's spectacular setting was a perfect complement to their uniquely distinctive portfolio of hotels, trains and cruises throughout the world. They also knew of its potential for an exclusive real estate development. Keswick Estates offers luxurious country estate living with two to five acre wooded home sites, distinctive custom homes by master builders, family golf club membership at Keswick Club and the assurance that comes with Orient-Express' international reputation for quality.

## **MANAGEMENT**

Resident Manager:	Matthias Smith
Keswick Club Executive Chef:	Craig Hartman
Director of Marketing and Public Relations:	Lynda Sheffield
Director of Sales and Catering:	Julianne Jackson
Director of Real Estate Development:	Cary Brent

## **OWNERS**

Orient-Express Hotels, Trains & Cruises

## **ADDRESS**

Keswick Hall at Monticello  
701 Club Drive; Keswick, Virginia 22947  
Tel: 434-979-3440 or 800-274-5391  
Fax: 434-977-4171

## **RESERVATIONS**

For reservations and information:  
Tel: 434 979 3440 or 800 274 5391  
<http://www.keswick.com>  
<http://www.orient-express.com>

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## KESWICK HALL AT MONTICELLO

### *Tidbits, Anecdotes and Fascinating Facts*

- Each room in the hotel is individually decorated, no two are alike. The rooms feature subtle themes that capture a country squire lifestyle (e.g. fishing, hunting, art, etc.). Rooms are lavishly furnished with original antiques.
- A nod to the past, guest rooms do not feature closets but beautiful antique armoires, each is different and has been chosen to best complement the room.
- The inn features a private helipad for quick and easy access for guests. Used occasionally by select individuals, it has also been used to launch hot air balloons for guests wanting a birds-eye-view of the gorgeous country-side, especially during the fall when the leaves are turning.
- Surrounded by both formal and informal gardens, nearby neighbors include horse farms such as Belcort and Bridlespur. The Keswick Hunt Club is Virginia's oldest hunt club founded in 1889 and it annually hosts nationally attended jumping and dressage competitions.
- Keswick Hall features three pools: a 35-meter lap pool at the tennis centre, a 25 meter infinity edge pool that offers quiet relaxation and amazing views and an indoor/outdoor exercise pool at the club house.
- Keswick Hall features wood burning fireplaces in many of the public rooms. The largest fireplace is in the Great Hall. On Christmas morning, guests staying at the hotel can wander through the public rooms to discover which fireplace their personalized holiday stocking has been hung over.
- Room 33 and 35 used to be in the attic of the original house. Today they feature large bathrooms with claw foot tubs and beautiful dormer windows that capture some of the best views of the sun rising over the fairways.
- Room number nine is the Louis XV inspired room, featuring the original hardwood floors that date back to 1912 and French doors that open onto a private terrace - the room offers breathtaking views of the golf course and infinity pool below. One of the most frequently requested guest rooms is the original master bedroom of the Crawford family who resided here from 1912 to 1931.
- Where do the stars rest their heads? A favorite getaway for a number of celebrities, Room 27 is favored by Anthony Hopkins, Room 9 by Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward, Room 39 by Faye Ray, Room 30 by Gary Oldman, and Room 32 is favored by Michael J.Fox and Julian Moore. Only room number 12, however, was immortalized in film and can be seen in the movie "Four Seasons," starring Carol Burnett and Allen Alda.

- Additional Celebrity guests include: Bill Murray, Tom Brokaw, Senator Joseph Lieberman, Katie Couric, Margaret Thatcher, David Farley, Mick Jagger, James Brown, Morgan Freeman and Arnold Palmer.
- Since its opening, the hotel has maintained a guest sign-in book, which has captured memories and compliments of thousands of guests over the last decade. “You slowed me down,” “my special place,” “the service surpasses the beautiful surroundings,” are only a few of the wonderful comments captured.
- Access to Keswick Club means more than just the use of their facilities – guests can be given a locker, and access to the services of the country club’s concierge who will arrange tee times, spa services, tennis lessons, private work-out sessions and even find a local member to play tennis or golf with.
- Homemade shortbread, chocolate truffles or Palmetto cookies (puff pastry, caramel and chocolate) are only a few of the options that the pastry chef creates for guests’ bedside snack. The turn down treats at Keswick are rarely repeated during a guests’ stay, but are always delicious.
- Wendy is a frisky and determined Border Collie who has a very important job at Keswick Hall. She is the official goose and duck re-locator. True to her inherent nature to herd, Wendy ensures her feathered friends are gently moved off the fairways and into the ponds and roughs, so that golfers have the right of way. Guests can enjoy watching Wendy hard at work from the piazza of the hotel.
- Charlottesville has long drawn visitors but has also become one of the number one places to live. Charlottesville was recently named as *Money* magazine’s #1 Small City in the South and as the number one best place to live in the United States in 2004 by the book *Cities Ranked and Rated*, as well as being selected by *CNN Money*, *Modern Maturity* and the *Men’s Journal* in their annual best places to live survey.
- Special tours can be arranged by the concierge at the hotel, which include tours with the University of Virginia Architect, who specializes in the history of the building and the Academic Village.
- Located in the fifth largest wine producing state in the U.S., Keswick Hall at Monticello is a short drive to more than 25 vineyards where guests can enjoy tours and tastings. The hotel’s own restaurant celebrates wines’ significance to the region by ensuring a well stocked wine cellar of both Virginia and International wines. The Cellar currently boasts more than 650 labels, and the restaurant serves more than 20 wines by the glass.
- One of the Monticello area vineyards even has a celebrity connection. Bleinheim Vineyards is owned by Dave Matthews, of the Dave Mathews Band. The Bleinheim vineyard is a biodynamic vineyard.
- Keswick Vineyards, nearby, houses its tasting room on the Keswick Hall property.
- Furnishings in the hotel and guest rooms are indicative of the history of the era including canopied four-poster beds, plump comforters and feather pillows, bergere club chairs, antique memorabilia, hand-painted armoires, ottomans, a combination of English and Early American

antique furnishings and carpets with Aubusson designs. Signature heirloom pattern fabrics and wall coverings brighten each room. Generously sized bathrooms feature separate, glass enclosed showers, oversized or claw-footed tubs, antique porcelain bathroom sets, heated towel racks, hair dryers, and a selection of pampering amenities including bath salts, hair treatments and hand and body creams.

- Keswick is home to an antiques collection that is itself worthy of a visit. Of special note: A  $\frac{3}{4}$  length portrait of a Spanish nobleman (perhaps the King of Spain), a George IV mahogany and mahogany-veneer bow front sideboard, a mahogany George III dining table with an unusual rounded top with reeded edge, and numerous unsigned oil paintings of classical style that evoke mystery and romance among guests.
- Keswick has become a coveted location for luxury destination weddings that book the entire property. Wedding parties typically have receptions on the terrace overlooking the gardens, dinner in the formal dining room, and book golf and spa treatments for the entire wedding party. Luxury weddings at Keswick Hall have included a number of unique touches per the bride's request, including: a custom-made hand painted dance floor, personal artwork and family photographs replacing the current collection on display at the property for the duration of the wedding, and more than 5,000 roses.
- In addition to the beautiful songs of wild birds and the dance of fireflies in the evening - especially brilliant during the summer months of June, July and August – guests can also regularly spot whitetail deer, fox, migrating geese, rabbits and squirrels. In fact, Keswick Hall's private golf course is one of only nine Audubon certified courses in the state.
- Buddy Leffers, a porter with the hotel since 1994, is also affectionately referred to as the head librarian. Since October of 2001, he and his wife have volunteered their time to build Keswick Hall's Virginia library. Housed on the main floor of the hotel, the collection includes a list of over 400 books by Virginians or about Virginia that cover a wide range of topics including history, memoirs, photography, cookbooks, nature, and fiction. Included in the collection are books by John Grisham and Rita Mae Brown who live nearby. Guests are welcome to enjoy the books in the library or in the comfort of their room.
- Keswick Hall has a special fondness for babies – and their fatigued parents. The hotel provides parents with a list of sitters that ensures even our youngest guests receive the pampering attention they deserve. Additionally, a member of the Keswick Hall staff is always on hand to assist mothers with their young charges, by warming bottles, serving baby food specially prepared by the Chef, supplying personalized cribs with blue, pink or yellow linens, placing a rocking chair in the guests' room, and providing a knapsack or stroller especially designed for long strolls on the estate. Best of all, the babysitter will even take charge of the young guest, rocking and cooing while Mom enjoys a peaceful soak in the tub or a romantic breakfast with Dad
- Raindrop Therapy is one of the most popular treatments offered at the Keswick Hall spa. Raindrop Therapy is a combination oil application and technique used by the Lakota Indians. It is designed to bring the body into balance, help align the energy centers for the body and release blockages. Drops of essential oil fall like rain onto the back and after each one is applied, it is smoothed and fanned over the nerves. The oils used include: Cypress, Thyme, Oregano, Basil, Valor, Marjoram, Wintergreen and Aroma-Siez, but each is personalized to the individual client.
- The Blue Ridge Mountain range runs for approximately 577 miles and can be seen from the hotel. The top of the mountain range is a mere 20 mile drive from Charlottesville (20 minutes). The

range got its' name from the conifers on the mountain which ooze a resin that reacts to the sunlight when it evaporates into the air creating a blue haze over the mountains.

- Keswick is also the land of foxhunts, where ladies and gentleman covet a good hound and where every dog truly does have its day. As such, Keswick Hall welcomes dogs of every shape and size, whether they aspire to the hunt, or simply dream of spending every drowsing moment before a roaring fireplace. The pet program includes accommodations in select rooms with terrace access and an accompanying human companion, a special Pet Menu is served on unique “pet china,” and the Hall’s Butler Program extends to pets walks with a specially trained porter as well as special maps of local trails and other dog-friendly habitats around the area.
- Dining at Keswick is always a special event, and one of the most popular offerings is the Signature Table, a private dinner table set by the Infinity Pool (May through October). Guests receive a welcoming toast of champagne, a five-course meal selected by the guests from the Fossett’s menu, and a server dedicated solely to their needs. Up to 8 guests per event.
- Imagine an early morning stroll with a four legged friend taken to the extreme. At Keswick Hall guests can enjoy a walk with the hounds, with the hound master from the neighboring hunt club and over 50 of his wagging tailed charges around a 1 to 2 mile loop on the grounds of Keswick Estate. This off leash group of canines follow the hound master like an adoring fan club, but a guest need only pat one of these pups on the head to be surrounded by a poise of them who await their turn.
- The Chef’s cooking has even delighted iconic rockers – when Mick Jagger stayed at Keswick Hall he supped on Fossett’s signature Spinach and Goat Cheese Whipped Potatoes with Chesapeake Bay Rockfish.

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## KESWICK HALL AT MONTICELLO

### *History*

In 1769, Thomas Jefferson built Monticello amid the mountain ridges, rolling hills and open meadows of Virginia, which he once referred to as “The Eden of the United States.” Since then, the area’s beauty, history and landscape, favored among the horse and wine set, has drawn visitors and new residents. Overlooking this mountain-rich countryside Keswick Hall at Monticello is located just six miles east of Charlottesville and five miles from Monticello.

Beginning in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Keswick Hall property was in the hands of John Rogers of Keswick Farm. There he built Broad Oak, a one-story house that took its name from the abnormally large oak tree located in front of the building. In 1874, Broad Oak was purchased at auction by Edward C. Mead, who expanded the house by adding a second story. The house, which was included in the 1898 listing of “Historic Homes of the South-West Mountain Virginia,” was tragically demolished by fire shortly after the turn of the twentieth century.

The vacant plot of land then captured the eye of a University of Virginia student named Robert B. Crawford, who purchased the property with his wife in 1912. Not surprisingly, Villa Crawford spawned from a delightfully romantic story. During a weekend when male students moved out of the University dorms to make room for female guests, Crawford remained at the boarding house where he lived to tend the furnace. Crawford overheard a young woman being criticized by her roommate and he stepped in to defend her. His noble gesture won the affections of the embattled woman and the two were soon married. Fortunately for Mr. Crawford, the woman turned out to be Miss Daingerfield, a very wealthy mid-western heiress. It was the newlywed’s long honeymoon in Italy that inspired them to purchase the 300 acres in Keswick and build their own Italianate-style mansion. Crawford hired architect Eurgan Bradbury to construct what would become Villa Crawford, the building that serves as the core of today’s Keswick Hall at Monticello, included room number nine that was the original master bedroom of the Crawfords. The Villa, constructed for \$100,000, was a two-story, stucco-clad dwelling with a tile roof. A photo of the original dwelling is available on the UVA Holsinger Collection website, accessed through the Special Collections library.

A prominent local architect, Eugene Bradbury began his career in Washington, DC, but moved to Charlottesville in 1907 to start his own architectural practice. Bradbury’s designs are associated with the architectural movement referred to as the Second General Renaissance, a style that catered to American clients who favored designs based on Renaissance Europe. The eclectic designs included buildings inspired by Italian palazzos, Georgian estates, and French chateaux.

Of the 37 known buildings designed by Bradbury in the Charlottesville vicinity, the majority fit this mold. Impressively, he is lauded for his balance of sensitivity toward Charlottesville's rich architectural history and his clients' individual wishes. Some of Bradbury's other designs include the 1916 renovations of the Deunlora House, St. Paul's Memorial Church on University Avenue, and the University of Virginia entrance building, which now houses the UVA Women's Center.

The Crawfords, who soon had twin sons, enjoyed living in their Italian-inspired Keswick mansion. However, tragedy soon struck when Robert Crawford died suddenly at an early age. Officially recorded as dying in Baltimore in 1919, interestingly, Baltimore is not the only recorded location of his death. A local legend, reported in a 1978 newspaper article, counterclaims that Mr. Crawford instead disappeared mysteriously while walking the grounds of Villa Crawford. While the story behind the legend is unknown, Mr. Crawford has been implicated in some unusual events that have taken place on property since his death. Mrs. Crawford remarried shortly after husband's death and her beloved Villa Crawford was sold. The property remained in private hands for the next 35 years and retained the name of Villa Crawford.

In 1947 the extensive flower gardens of this private residence were traded for putting greens and fairways. The initial development was headed by a group of Albemarle businessmen who purchased the property from the estate of August Heid. Calling themselves "The Keswick Corporation", they were formed with the exclusive purpose of developing the property into a country club. In order to achieve their goal, they converted the large private residence into a clubhouse, added a golf course, and installed two pools. Their entrepreneurial endeavors proved profitable during the 1950s and the club membership rose to nearly 300. During these years, the club hosted numerous formal balls and dinners, becoming a central fixture in Keswick's social life. However, in 1960 profits began to wane, and in 1965 the club was sold at auction for \$150,000. The sale price particularly shocking when considering that The Daily Progress reported that the clubhouse alone was worth \$1 million at that time.

Happily, the club was revitalized after the sale by its new owner Knox Turnbull, who also served as the president of the newly formed Keswick Estates Inc. Turnbull's ambitious vision resulted in a large addition to the clubhouse in 1966, an ice rink in 1967, tennis courts, as well as the installation of a towrope on the driving range for ski practice. Although these improvements were financially burdensome, membership flourished and soon reached close to 700. The golf course was particularly successful and Keswick hosted the State Open in both 1969 and 1970. Unfortunately, the club's prosperity floundered with the death of Turnbull in 1971. Turnbull's estate tried to sell the club to the Board of Directors of Keswick Estates, but they were unable to raise the required capital. The club officially folded in August of 1972, although the golf course remained in operations as a public course for the next eight years.

A winemaker would be the next person who would be charmed by the Villa. Mr. J.W. (Bill) Lane of Fairfax, the owner of Pied Mont Vineyards Company acquired the property with plans to renovate the Villa Crawford the center-point of a series of lush vineyards reminiscent of the French Countryside. To help make his dream a reality, he hired David Rosenthal of Northern Virginian to make some cosmetic changes to the clubhouse so it would inspire a Chateau-esque ambiance. His scheme received criticism from those who preferred Bradbury's design. Subsequently, Lane's plans never materialized and the club sold in 1981 for \$1 million to William H. Burress, president of the Burress Land and Lumber Company of Lynchburg.

Burress hoped to rekindle the Villa's earlier success a private country club. However, his reign was short lived for the club suddenly closed its doors during the summer of 1983 just two years after his purchase. Thomas Curtis a developer from Houston, and George O' Brien, a golf pro from New Jersey, reportedly purchased the property from Burress for \$1.5 million. Together they planned to renovate the clubhouse

and golf course, as well as create a residential development; however, they too ran into financial difficulties and sold the property 1989.

Despite a rocky past, Villa Crawford's charmed past managed to captivate Bob Paxton, an architect in Alexandria, who brought the property to the attention of Lord Bernard Ashley, widower of internationally-successful designer Laura Ashley. Paxton was familiar with Lord Ashley's original American country-house hotel; The Inn at Perry Cabin located near St. Michael's, Maryland, as well as a similar property called Llangoed Hall in Wales, England. In both cases, Lord Ashley operated successfully renovated historic country estates. Heeding Paxton's advice, Lord Ashley purchased the property and 600 adjoining acres for \$5.5 million in 1990. Mr. Paxton, hired as the architect, expanded Villa Crawford into a grand hotel that recalled Bradbury's original Italian-inspired design. The new design was Palladian in plan, with a large central block flanked by symmetrical wings. Arnold Palmer's company was hired to renovate and expand the Findlay-designed golf course. Taking advantage of natural hazards offered by the property's ancient oaks, grassy wetlands and meandering creeks, it was Mr. Palmer who said, "These are the finest greens in Virginia - probably on the entire East Coast."

A residential development was also planned for the grounds. Ashley House, as the property was called after the renovations opened in 1993 with high praises. The 48-room hotel continued to thrive under Ashley's leadership until the stewardship was passed on the Orient-Express Hotels in 1999 for \$13.5 million.

It was the beauty of the region and Keswick Hall's appeal that beckoned to a time and tradition of landed gentry that caught the attention of Orient-Express Hotels, Trains & Cruises, a company whose commitment to the finest in travel is commemorated in their namesake property, the famed Venice Simplon-Orient-Express train. They acquired the property mid-1999 and set about refurbishing the guest rooms and public spaces in both the hotel and club house including new bathrooms, linens and soft goods and the restoration of the antiques, the addition of a new fine dining restaurant on the piazza level, a new 25 meter infinity edge pool, and the enhancement and lengthening of the private golf course as well as the introduction of a Fossett's restaurant.. In addition, the hotel introduced new service and amenities, including a butler style service (including specialized services of a baby butler), a Virginia library and customized area experiences ranging from wine tours to sporting clays on private estates.

Today, guests of Keswick Hall enjoy immediate access to the 18-hole Arnold Palmer-designed signature golf course and five lighted tennis courts, three pools and state-of-the-art fitness equipment. In keeping with the grandest and most authentic elegant estates, public rooms at Keswick Hall serve different purposes. The Crawford Lounge, formerly the entrance hall for Villa Crawford, is an ideal setting for cocktails or afternoon tea. The yellow Morning Room, Elegant Drawing Room and the cozy Snooker Room are places where guests can enjoy a midnight game and glass or two of port or sherry before turning in. The library with its roaring fire now houses over 1,000 books by Virginians or about Virginia. Furnishings in these rooms are a blend of original antiques and period inspired pieces.

Overstuffed furniture with fringes and tassels, assorted antiques, cherished paintings, sculptures, and tables stacked with art books and rare editions offer travelers a welcome respite from their hectic lives. Blazing fires in warm hearths, porcelain bowls of granny smiths, silver dishes of nuts atop heirloom buffets, and decanters gleaming with colorful liqueurs complete the warm and inviting setting. Also in keeping with a private estate feel, no two of the 48 guest rooms are alike – each subtly captures a different theme, such as aviation, fishing, maps, the circus, tennis and music. Guestroom beds range from four posters to opulent canopies, while bathrooms feature a variety of configurations such as soaker or claw foot tubs.

Keswick Hall proudly rests on 600-acres of lush Virginia countryside known as Keswick Estate. The 48-room Keswick Hall is a luxury inn, which also hosts the private Keswick Club featuring an 18-hole, 6,507

yard Arnold Palmer signature golf course, indoor/outdoor pool, a fitness center complete with spa, pro shop, tennis complex and dining facilities. The property also includes approximately 126 planned minimum two acre home sites, aptly named Keswick Estate.

Orient-Express Hotels, Trains and Cruises ([www.orient-express.com](http://www.orient-express.com)) is a hotel and leisure company providing luxury travel experiences for discerning travelers in areas of outstanding cultural, historic or recreational interest. Founded in 1976 when the company acquired Hotel Cipriani in Venice, Orient-Express owns or has investments in 50 businesses: 39 highly individual hotels, three restaurants, six tourist trains and two river cruise operations, located in 22 countries worldwide. The company believes that discerning travelers will choose a famous individual property in preference to a chain brand, so none of its businesses is called Orient-Express except the fabled Venice Simplon-Orient-Express luxury train which operates through Europe, linking London, Paris and Venice. Orient-Express chooses to own or part-own its businesses, believing equity returns are greater than management fee income alone and continues to seek out unique properties with expansion potential and introduce new experiences, restoring romance, glamour and style to international travel.

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## **FOSSETT'S OFFERS NEW DINING EXPERIENCE IN LUXURIOUS ESTATE SETTING**

Located on the hotel's first floor terrace, the 70-seat Fossett's features expansive, three-sided floor to ceiling windows with spectacular open views of the estate's pristine landscape and the southwest mountains. The interiors, designed to be warm and refreshing, are accented with historical Virginia artwork, custom designed furniture, and original hand-painted murals. During the mild weather months, Fossett's also offers al fresco terrace seating overlooking the rolling fairways of the estate's Arnold Palmer signature golf course. The restaurant is open seven days a week for lunch and is closed for dinner on Tuesdays. Breakfast is served from 7:30 a. m. to 10 a.m. on weekdays and 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Brunch is served on Sunday from 11 a.m to 2 p.m. and dinner is served from 6 p.m. – 9:30 p.m., six days a week. Reservations and smart casual attire are recommended for dinner.

Keswick Hall's Executive Chef Craig Hartman and staff regularly create a culinary experience that is approachable, contemporary, and innovative. Fossett's seasonal menu is influenced by the Chef's version of American Regional cuisine and emphasizes freedom to experiment with distinctive flavors and fresh, local ingredients. With the backdrop of classic cooking techniques, the Chef presents a trademark cuisine that reflects an attitude of informal elegance and comfortable exploration for visitors and Charlottesville's discriminating local restaurant clientele.

Guests can choose from Fossett's a la carte menu featuring such culinary delights as Ravioli of Braised Lamb Shoulder, Gryffon's Aerie Beef Bouille and Grilled Tenderloin, Southern Fried Quail, Monticello Cow Peas Cassoulet and classic Sweet Potato Pie.

Fossett's was specifically designed to be elegant yet relaxed to become a favorite among locals, but also a destination restaurant of visitors to the area. With 48 guest rooms in Keswick Hall, Fossett's is perfectly positioned to offer gourmets an exciting culinary getaway in the heart of the Monticello wine region.

In addition to the fine dining experience, Fossett's also features an adjacent bar offering an exciting tapas menu, signature and specialty drinks, and terrace seating for our guests to enjoy.

Fossett's is named in honor of Thomas Jefferson's chief cook at Monticello, Edith Fossett (1787-1854). Mrs. Fossett held one of the most responsible positions in Jefferson's household during his retirement years. Mrs. Fossett learned the art of French cooking from Honore Julien, Head Chef, and Etienne Lemaire, the Maitre de Hotel, while serving in the White House during Jefferson's presidential years.

Ranked as one of the best hotels by *Condé Nast Traveler*, *Travel + Leisure* and *Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report*, Keswick Hall has an Eden-like setting of both formal and informal gardens on Keswick Estate. With 600 acres of lush Virginia countryside, the 48-room Keswick Hall features a country club, private 18-hole signature golf course, indoor and outdoor pools, a fitness center complete with spa, pro shop, tennis complex and club house dining facilities. Fossett's, the hotel's fine dining restaurant, has become a destination in itself, drawing gourmets from around the country to experience

regional cuisine at this circa 1912 hotel. Keswick Hall is also home to the Keswick Vineyards tasting room. Part of the famed Orient-Express Hotels, Trains & Cruises collection, the resort provides a country estate experience, with plush furnishings and wood burning fireplaces throughout. Individually decorated guest rooms feature collections of French and English antiques. For more information visit [www.keswick.com](http://www.keswick.com) or call 1-800-274-5391.

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## **CRAIG HARTMAN**

### **EXECUTIVE CHEF**

#### *Fossett's at Keswick Hall*

Widely regarded for his comprehensive culinary knowledge and skills, Chef Craig Hartman has gained a celebrated reputation over the past three decades for bringing together local agriculture, history and culture into fruition with his innovative cuisine at some of the most prestigious inns and hotels in the country. Craig employs his own style of cuisine at the award-winning Fossett's Restaurant in Keswick Hall that relies on the freshest local ingredients, a modern approach to classic cooking techniques, and what he calls country-inspired cooking elements. With Chef Hartman's well established status as a 'culinary alchemist', guests of the hotel as well as local clientele are in for an exceptional dining experience with dishes such as Creamy Organic Cauliflower Soup or the Monticello Cow Peas Cassoulet.

Craig's lifelong love of food and cooking was nurtured early on in his childhood where every summer was spent at his grandmother's Inn in Ocean City, Maryland, where he often spent afternoons filleting fish and tending to his crab pots in preparation for the evening's culinary delights. He remembers that "every meal there was like a love affair and I have been trying to recreate them ever since." In addition, his mother was a true gourmand who saved every issue of Gourmet, and took any class she could from masters such as James Beard and Julia Child. She cooked items like gruyere soufflés and braised Flemish beef for their everyday dinners. It only seemed natural then, when at the age of eleven Craig announced that he was going to be one of the finest chef's in the world.

"Guiding the talented culinary team here at Keswick is a highlight in my career and I am also delighted to be a part of the extended Orient-Express family," says Craig. "I have always been inspired by the history and natural beauty of Charlottesville and I continually enjoy presenting our guests with innovative menus using the freshest ingredients from our outstanding local farmers and suppliers.

Craig oversees Fossett's fine dining at Keswick Hall and the Palmer Room's bistro-style fare at Keswick Club. He also manages and coordinates the property's private events, banquet, and off-site catering

operations. In addition, Craig serves as an integral part of the Estate's development team working on creating new and exciting culinary experiences for the Estate throughout the year.

Craig trained at the Culinary Institute of America, served on the World Champion United States Team at the Culinary Olympics, was a two-time Guest Chef at the prestigious James Beard House in NYC, Executive Chef and Innkeeper at The Cliff House in Denver and the Clifton Inn in Charlottesville, the Culinary Instructor at the renowned Hotel School at Cornell University and won three People's Choice "Best Chef Awards."

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## **BUTLERING – A FINE ART PRACTICED DAILY AT KESWICK HALL**

The moment you arrive at the estate's gorgeously manicured grounds, you are greeted by footmen who transport you (figuratively and literally) into the special world of Keswick Hall at Monticello with Butler style service.

Those guests unsure as to how, exactly, to best use such professional service need not worry. Keswick's butler staff is trained to advise on all manner of matters, including where to dine, where to spend a lovely afternoon, how to arrange for a private jet or how, simply, to ensure a double supply of fluffy morning towels. No request is too daunting – or too diminutive.

The highly trained staff has mastered the ability to anticipate guests' needs and to be there just when you need them. From the fireplace-festooned sitting rooms to the professional-level tennis courts, your butler is but a call away, but more often than not, will seem to almost, magically appear just when you need him.

In addition to assisting you with plans for wine tasting tours, Keswick Hall also offers the services a few specialized Butlers, including:

### **The Love Butler**

Because Keswick has become such a well-known destination for lovers, our staff happily accommodates the special needs of couples in search of a quiet, romantic escape.

Enter, the Love Butler Package, which is activated (discretely, of course) when you make your reservation, or upon check-in. The package offers visiting couples an in-room amenities kit replete with romantic tunes on a compact disc, volumes of classic erotic novellas (to keep), aromatherapy bath oils and two robes. Guests will also be offered special hints at romantic day trips or other nearby ventures especially suited for two.

### **Baby's Own Butler**

Keswick Hall has a special fondness for babies – and their fatigued parents. The hotel provides parents with a list of sitters that ensures even our youngest guests receive the pampering attention they deserve. Additionally, a member of the Keswick Hall staff is always on hand to assist mothers with their young charges, by warming bottles, serving baby food specially prepared by the Chef, supplying personalized cribs with blue, pink or yellow linens, placing a rocking chair in the guests' room, and providing a knapsack or stroller especially designed for long strolls on the estate.

Best of all, the babysitter will even take charge of the young guest, rocking and cooing while Mom enjoys a peaceful soak in the tub or a romantic breakfast with Dad.

Ranked as one of the best hotels by *Condé Nast Traveler, Travel + Leisure* and *Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report*, Keswick Hall has an Eden-like setting of both formal and informal gardens on Keswick Estate. With 600 acres of lush Virginia countryside, the 48-room Keswick Hall features a country club, private 18-hole signature golf course, indoor and outdoor pools, a fitness center complete with spa, pro shop, tennis complex and club house dining facilities. Fossett's, the hotel's fine dining restaurant, has become a destination in itself, drawing gourmets from around the country to experience regional cuisine at this circa 1912 hotel. Keswick Hall is also home to the Keswick Vineyards tasting room. Part of the famed Orient-Express Hotels, Trains & Cruises collection, the resort provides a country estate experience, with plush furnishings and wood burning fireplaces throughout. Individually decorated guest rooms feature collections of French and English antiques. For more information visit [www.keswick.com](http://www.keswick.com) or call 1-800-274-5391.

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## CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

*"The Eden of the United States"*

*Thomas Jefferson*

The Commonwealth of Virginia is the setting where some of the most significant events in American history have taken place. From the first English settlers arriving on the banks of Jamestown almost four centuries ago, to the many battles that took place during the Civil War, historic sites and attractions abound.

So much of America's history unfolded here in the "Old Dominion," home to more American presidents and Civil War battles than any other state. Surrounded by lush green landscapes and an array of recreational options, Virginia is also known for its high standard of living. Here anyone can witness the past while enjoying all the benefits of a modern world. In fact, Charlottesville was recently named as *Money* magazine's #1 Small City in the South and as the number one best place to live in the United States in 2004 by the book *Cities Ranked and Rated*. The city has also been selected by *CNN Money*, *Modern Maturity* and the *Men's Journal* in their annual best places to live surveys.

Virginia's diversity can be experienced in the seven different regions that make up this Commonwealth: Northern Virginia, Shenandoah Valley, Southwest Blue Ridge Highlands, Central Virginia, Tidewater and Hampton Roads, Eastern Shore and Chesapeake Bay. Each region contains its own share of history.

Central Virginia is a blend of beautifully preserved heritage, modern facilities and attractions. A popular choice for both business and leisure travelers, guests find a graceful blend of old and new in the area's many cities. In the heart of the prime region is Richmond, the state's capital, with a stunning blend of past and present. From the Edgar Allan Poe Museum, housed in the colonial-era Old Stone House and historic Tredegar Iron Works and the lobby of Old City Hall, to the Japanese Tea House at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, the city is not to be missed. Other "must sees" while in Richmond include the Valentine Museum, Virginia Historical Society and State Library of Virginia.

The area is also home to some of America's greatest patriots. Scotchtown, near Ashland, was the residence of the revolutionary Patrick Henry. Many of the founding fathers lived in this region, including Presidents Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe and James Madison, and their homes are open to the public today.

Central Virginia also has many reminders of the Civil War, including the Museum and White House of the Confederacy in Richmond and Petersburg, which remained under military siege for more than nine months. Pamplin Historical Park, one of America's most exciting private historical attractions, allows visitors to experience the breakthrough of Union troops through the defenses commanded by General Robert E. Lee. Danville, the last capital of the Confederacy and Appomattox Court House, where General Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant, ending the most brutal war in our nation's history, are legendary.

The city of Charlottesville, the gem of the Central Virginia region, epitomizes the beauty of Virginia. Part of Albemarle County, it was formed in 1744 and named in honor of William Ann Keppel, second Earl of Albemarle, who was then governor general of the colony. Charlottesville, named for Queen Charlotte, wife of George III, was established as a town in 1762 and incorporated as a city in 1888. With a population of just over 45,000, Charlottesville is a backdrop of brilliant color and deep tradition.

From Montpelier's circa 1809 temple to its outrider's red jackets and racing silks, time stands still as thundering steeds run the steeplechase at the annual Montpelier Hunt Race. This popular weekend event takes place on the grounds at Montpelier, the Federal-style pink manse west of Charlottesville that once belonged to James Madison, framer of the Constitution, sponsor of the Bill of Rights, and fourth president of the United States.

Of course, the cornerstone of Charlottesville is Monticello, home of third President Thomas Jefferson, author, and founder of the University of Virginia. Designed by Jefferson beginning in 1768, the grounds of the house illustrate his architectural, scientific and agricultural genius. The main house is open to the public daily. A fascinating look into the great thinker's mind, the tour features Jefferson's personal treasures: his inventions, marble busts of those he respected and admired, and artifacts bestowed as gifts from explorers Lewis and Clarke, who in their expedition of the Louisiana Purchase, essentially crated the size and mass of the United States as it is known today.

Monticello is visited by more than 500,000 visitors from around the world annually, and is the only house designated by the United Nations as a World Heritage Site, along with the Great Wall of China and Stonehenge. The Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation is charged with protecting this international treasure and preserving the legacy of Monticello's past for future generations.

Today Monticello is renowned for its magnificent house and grounds, as well as its research efforts, restoration and educational programs, classroom curricula, and its annual Fourth of July event when dozens of immigrants to the U.S. take the Oath of Citizenship at Monticello.

For first timers to Charlottesville, a good way to see the area is to begin at the classically beautiful rotunda at the University of Virginia, Thomas Jefferson's tribute to "the illimitable freedom of the mind," which lends a stately grace to the city. The "father" of the University, Mr. Jefferson created this "Academical Village" which is still regarded as one of the nation's most outstanding universities and supreme architectural achievements. From this magical epicenter, Charlottesville unfolds encompassing historic monuments, bookstores, restaurants and bars, an excellent symphony and theatre Repertoire Company, and an annual film festival.

As America's first wine connoisseur, Thomas Jefferson believed that world-class wines could be produced in Virginia. In 1773 he gave his land adjoining Monticello to Italian winemaker Filippo Mazzei, to establish a European-style vineyard. Mazzei found the soil and climate of Virginia to be superior to that of Italy, and believed "some of the best wine in the world will be made here"

Today Jefferson's land produces award-winning Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay and Riesling under the Jefferson Vineyards label, and Virginia is the country's fifth-largest wine-producing state. There are over 25 vineyards in the Monticello Wine Region alone, providing visitors numerous opportunities for wine tours with stops to some of the areas most notable vineyards including: Barboursville, Kluge, White Hall Vineyards, Horton Cellars, Oakencroft Vineyard & Winery and many others.

Other Charlottesville historic sites include the Albemarle County Courthouse, which was built in 1762 and later served as the meeting place of the Virginia legislature as they fled Britain's army in 1781. It

was then that State Legislator Daniel Boone was captured during a surprise British raid on Charlottesville. Robert E. Lee, another wartime hero, is commemorated in Lee Park by a large equestrian stature. Although Historical Downtown Charlottesville is a rich historical showcase, it is also a bustling collection of charming shops, elegant boutiques and many eateries. With numerous fine restaurants and over 115 retail outlets, Charlottesville also offers fine galleries, museums and libraries - all located among 200 historic buildings and landmarks.

More information is available from the following organizations:

- Historic Downtown Charlottesville 434-296-8548
- Thomas Jefferson Visitors Center 434-977-1783
- Monticello Public Affairs Office 434-984-9822
- University of Virginia Rotunda Tours 434-924-1019
- University of Virginia Daily Calendar 434-924-3777
- Charlottesville-Albemarle County Chamber of Commerce 434-295-3141

For outdoor enthusiasts there is hiking in the Blue Ridge Mountains, skiing at nearby Wintergreen during the colder months, skeet and clays, several golf courses including Keswick Hall's own private course, fly fishing and numerous equestrian pursuits from trail riding to steeplechase.

For the treasure hunter there are antique shops and locally owned boutiques that provide hours of enjoyment to those looking for the perfect little something to don or decorate with.

For more information visit [www.keswick.com](http://www.keswick.com) or 1-800-274-5391 or visit the Charlottesville Visitor Bureau web site at [www.charlottesvilletourism.org](http://www.charlottesvilletourism.org).

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## **KESWICK HALL: IDEAL FOR MEETINGS, RETREATS AND INCENTIVES**

Keswick Hall was designed for corporate executives to retreat from the stresses of modern day business. With an atmosphere that fosters productivity, relaxation and tranquility, the property is within easy reach of major business centers and airports, but private enough to create an environment of rejuvenation and comfort. The intimate size of the property allows for boundless creativity where limitations are disregarding.

The Keswick Hall experience begins even before delegates arrive. As the planning stages for a meeting or incentive are critical for its ultimate success, Keswick Hall designates a sales manager who is trained to meet the most demanding requirements with ease and creativity. The coordinator's goal is to develop an integral partnership with the planner in designing a unique, productive and motivating gathering. This is where Keswick stands apart from other destinations.

Keswick Hall offers a spectacular natural setting, deep in the heart of lush Virginia hunt country. With its unobtrusive yet attentive service, award-winning cuisine, and exciting "free time" activities for delegates, the hotel is a favorite for discerning professionals and meeting/incentive planners worldwide.

Guided tours are available to Historical Downtown Charlottesville - a rich showcase with more than 25 fine restaurants and 115 retail outlets, as well as galleries, museums and libraries - all located among 200 historic buildings and landmarks. Other outings include visits to nearby famous Civil and Revolutionary War battlegrounds, inspiring lectures at the University of Virginia, films and firsthand demonstrations at Monticello in botany, horticulture, wine making, and other pursuits, plus private home and garden tours.

Over the generations, starting with the first vineyard in America on the grounds of Monticello, Charlottesville now boasts some of the richest wine growing land in the nation. Customized vineyard tours combined with elaborate tasting menus offer a unique "destination" experience as the area is home to more than 25 vineyards.

Charlottesville and the resort's surrounding area are highly regarded among equestrian circles. Large, sprawling horse farms dot the landscape. Several of the area's most prestigious grant Keswick Hall access for special corporate events.

In addition to exciting off-site activities, every delegate and their spouse have access to unlimited play at the exclusive Keswick Club located on the grounds of the hotel, with its 18-hole Arnold Palmer designed signature course, spa and fitness facility, and retail shop. The Club's open-air Pavilion, open from May to October, offers an olympic-sized swimming pool, five tennis courts lit for night play, and a separate children's wading pool and play area.

Keswick Hall offers the corporate planner and executives an unusual flexibility of using a variety of the hotel's business as well as public spaces for general sessions or breakout groups.

Keswick Hall has more than 7,000 square feet of meeting and conference space, making it one of the best settings for business and social gatherings from eight to 300. With its naturally beautiful surroundings, luxurious guestrooms, exciting leisure facilities and sophisticated technology, this year-round venue is rated among America's best for social gatherings and events, including board meetings, executive retreats, corporate gatherings and weddings.

The Boardroom - This 837-square foot room is designed for ultimate comfort and productivity, featuring rich, wood paneled walls and advanced telecommunications technology, allowing for computer image projection, teleconferencing, video/slide presentations and controlled lighting and is able to seat 34 conference-style or 48 theatre-style.

The 600-square foot Garden Room, with its terra cotta tile, wicker furnishings and French doors that lead to the lower terrace overlooking the herb garden and manicured greens, is the perfect setting for private dining and is able to host 24 conference-style or 24 theatre-style.

The main ballroom of Keswick Hall can seat up to 200, offering more than 3,000 square feet of refined appointments such as beveled mirrors, decorative wainscoting, candlestick sconces and European frescoes. Overlooking formal gardens, for smaller groups, the ballroom can be divided into three equal meeting rooms, while the close proximity to the Boardroom and Garden Room, allow for endless meeting design configurations.

The original west wing of Keswick Hall features heart-of-pine flooring and four distinctly different public rooms, with a combined area of 3,326 square feet. The four distinct rooms are the Library which features over 400 books about Virginia or written by Virginian authors, The Tea Room showcasing an antique snooker table, The Morning Room with plush seating and French doors leading to a verandah offering spectacular views of the golf course, and the Villa Crawford room featuring period antiques and a grand piano for guest's musical enjoyment.

In addition, the grounds of the estate provide numerous options for outdoor dining and special events ranging from champagne cocktails and putting competitions to a banquet on the croquet lawn.

Small groups are encouraged to take advantage of other areas of the house for more personal and private sessions. Keswick Hall's interiors and grounds lend themselves to certain tranquility and, therefore, a more productive meeting. The hotel's new 120-square foot tent, allows for creative outside dining or meeting space, in almost any location.

The hotel's banqueting department is capable of executing memorable off-site themed events and other movable feasts at nearby attractions as well. Recent client gatherings have taken place at Montpellier, the home of President James Madison, nearby Barboursville Vineyards, and Nutmeg Farms, one of the region's most scenic private working farms. The Pavilion adds another dimension to dining too, offering a popular setting for poolside group barbecues and cocktail receptions.

Whether groups require small working lunches or grand dinners, the Chef of the Inn's Fossett's restaurant can tailor meals to suit every taste. The designated Keswick Hall coordinator serves as the liaison between meeting organizers and the Chef to plan all meals and breaks, including breakfast, lunch, dinners, receptions, teas and local wine tastings.

For group and incentive reservations and information, please call Keswick Hall directly at 434-923-4370. Planners can also visit [www.keswick.com](http://www.keswick.com) or [www.orient-express.com](http://www.orient-express.com).

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## **FAIRYTALE WEDDINGS COME TRUE AT KESWICK HALL AT MONTICELLO**

Because Keswick Hall is so conducive to romance, weddings here are extraordinary. This Tuscan-style villa is located deep in the heart of Virginia hunt country, bordering the Blue Ridge Mountains in historic Charlottesville, Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello, and a variety of award-winning vineyards. Set on a 600-acre estate with private country club, Keswick Hall recalls a much kinder, gentler time, exuding a sense of serenity and peace. Such an atmosphere makes for unhurried, special moments; ones to be recalled and cherished forever.

Ceremonies and receptions from 10 to 200 people can be customized to suit the ambience and vision of the couple, whether it is an outdoor gathering with stunning views of the rolling hillsides or a formal setting in the main ballroom. For an exclusive option, the bridal party can reserve all of the 48 luxurious guest rooms at the Inn for an “Expressly Yours” wedding. The “Expressly Yours” option provides unique opportunities for the couple to present this elegant country estate as their very own manor house – personal photographs can decorate the public rooms and hallways and access options are almost limitless.

From bridal teas in the Drawing Room and bachelor parties in the Snooker Room, to grand rehearsal dinners and enchanting wedding ceremonies, Keswick Hall’s fairytale ambience and natural setting celebrate the beginning of this lifelong commitment.

In addition, guests who are staying at Keswick Hall receive temporary membership at Keswick’s private country club – providing access to all club facilities including the private 18-hole Arnold Palmer designed golf course, tennis center, gym and full service spa.

Of course, dining at Keswick Hall adds another marvelous dimension. Whether welcoming the wedding party on the Terrace for cocktails or savoring the weekend’s goodbye brunch, the Chef from the hotel’s Fossett’s restaurant can create a gourmet menu to suit every taste.

Owned and operated by Orient-Express Hotels, Trains & Cruises, more information is available by calling Keswick Hall at 800 274 5391 or visiting [www.keswick.com](http://www.keswick.com) or [www.orient-express.com](http://www.orient-express.com)

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KESWICK CLUB  
AN ORIENT-EXPRESS CLUB

### GOLF FACTS

Golfers will find a perfect blend of classic and modern play on this course that dates back to 1939, and was redesigned in the early 90's by Arnold Palmer with additional lengthening taking place under Mr. Palmer's direction during the winter of 2002/2003. The lush grounds, old growth trees and shrubs, and sheer beauty will allow one to step back in time while playing on a modern challenging course

- Keswick Club features an 18-hole, 6,506 yard Arnold Palmer Signature golf course, 25-meter lap pool, indoor/outdoor pool, fitness center and spa complete with whirlpool, steam room, hot tub, pro shop, five floodlit tennis courts, and exquisite dining facilities. Adjacent to the club is Keswick Hall, a 48-room luxury country estate hotel with Fossett's (a fine dining restaurant), library, snooker room, lounge and an infinity edge pool overlooking the golf course
- The original golf course was built in 1939 by Fred Findley, a renowned designer of several famous courses in central Virginia.
- The course features mature cedar and maple trees and beautiful redbuds and dogwoods, some dating back 200 years.
- Arnold Palmer completed a redesign of the course in 1992, at which time it was named an Arnold Palmer Signature Golf Course. Palmer said the course had "very good bones" and was, therefore, able to keep the layout of the course, the mature trees and other classic features like the routing plan (or layout of the greens). Palmer's touches included the addition of sandtraps, contour changes, rebuilt greens to meet the United States Golf Association specifications, a new "wall to wall" irrigation system, and cart paths as well as the addition of landscaping were incorporated into the overall design.
- The course layout at Keswick mixes the shotmaking demands of a championship mountainside design with an almost surreal beauty. Unlike beach courses, mountain terrain courses don't need to be long to be challenging. In the mountains the ball kicks and rolls making the "shot value" great.
- Tees and greens: The bent grass greens of Keswick have been described by Arnold Palmer as "the finest in Virginia, probably on the East Coast."
- Current Par: The current par for the course is 71, the course rating is 71.8 and the slope rating is 136. (The national average for slope rating is 115, in theory the higher the number the more difficult the course. The course rating is based on the scratch player and the slope rating is based on the bogey player. Many factors go into determining the course and slope rating including the number of trees and bunkers; number of water hazards; length of course; tightness of landing areas; trouble around the green; elevation changes; etc.)

- Fairways: A consistent plush mix of Bermuda, fescue and rye grasses. It's one of those rare courses where guests can actually play the ball down and never draw a bad lie.
- Roughs: Thick, but not impossibly long and consistent throughout the course.
- Practice Facilities: Feature elevated natural grass tee areas, large target greens, and practice greens.
- Pro-tips for playing Keswick would include:
  - Think strategy on every hole.
  - Concentrate on accurate iron play and cautious putting.
  - Keswick's sloped and undulating greens makes keeping approach shots below the pin an absolute must for scoring.
- Unhurried play and pristine surroundings of this private course make it especially appealing to golfers. Keswick does not have rangers, starters or marshals on course as they believe the game should not be hurried, but instead relaxed so players can enjoy their surroundings and a pressure free game. For guests staying at the Keswick Hall, a temporary club membership is granted for the duration of their stay.
- Since 1993, there have been a total of 19 holes-in-one on the course. On hole three, there have been five holes-in-one; on hole six there have been six; and on hole 11, there have been eight.
- Wildlife is a regular feature of Keswick Hall and on any given day golfers and guests can spot white tail deer, foxes, migrating geese, rabbits and squirrels.
- In addition to the wildlife, a four-legged member of the golf course is Wendy, a frisky and determined Border Collie who has a very important job at Keswick Club. She is the official goose and duck re-locator. True to her inherent nature to herd, Wendy ensures her feathered friends are gently moved off the fairways to the ponds and roughs so that golfers have the right-of-way. Guests can enjoy watching Wendy hard at work from the piazza of the hotel, which overlooks the resorts private 18-hole golf course.
- The golf course at Keswick Hall is one of only nine in the state (and only 411 internationally) that have received its Audubon Environmental Certification, a highly sought after recognition program awarded to courses that have proven to provide a high degree of environmental quality for both people and wildlife. Categories of compliance include environmental planning, wildlife and habitat management, integrated pest management, water conservation, water quality management and outreach and education.
- The course maintains 25 acres of buffer zones in which no fertilizers or pesticides are used around the perimeter of the golf course or natural streams that run through it.
- Little Keswick School is the Outreach and Education Audubon Partner with Keswick Club. One of the projects they completed is the building bird habitats. Golfers can enjoy the creations by this group of girls and boys age seven to 17 on holes two, six, eight and ten.
- For those wanting to work on the psychology of the game, Keswick has a member that can help. Dr. Bob Rotella, a renowned sports psychologist who specializes in the mind-game connection and has coached numerous PGA players, including David Duval, Davis Love, Tom Kite, and Don Pooley is often seen hard at work with one of his clients at Keswick.

- In 1969, Keswick was host to the Virginia State Golf Open.
- In 1999, Keswick was a featured course on the Teardrop Tour.
- UVA Cavalier Classic 1996-1998 featured golf power houses such as “Florida State, North Carolina, Alabama, and LSU.
- 2002 Canadian PGA Tour Lewis Chitengwa Memorial Championship.
- *The Washington Times* rates the course with five flags. Five being the highest rating a course can receive. The ranking is based on several criteria, including: layout, tees and greens, fairways, rough, service, practice facilities, fees/value and overall experience. Keswick is the only five flag experience, other than the Homestead in Virginia.
- Keswick has consistently ranked as one of the best in Great Golf Resorts of the World.
- In 1999, Keswick was selected by Golf Magazine as one of the Top 100 Golf Resorts.
- Celebrities that played the course include Bill Murray, Howard Long, and PGA tour players Hal Sutton, Billy Mayfair, Tom Kite and Aaron Baddeley.
- Hal Sutton and the late Lewis Chitengwa are the official co-course record holders (with a score of 63).
- Golf instruction at Keswick Club focuses on the individual. It is their belief that group instruction is a poor substitute for one on one instruction. In golf, what’s good for one is not necessarily good for all. Golfers come to the lesson tee with different learning styles and problems. Group instruction and any model being used can never address or overcome the many individual needs and problems.
- Broadmoor Lake located adjacent to hole seven, provides a beautiful view for golfers teeing off and a favorite spot for bass fishing. In fact, even celebrity Paul Newman enjoyed a leisurely afternoon of casting here while staying at Keswick Hall.

### **RECENT REVIEWS**

*“Sporting pursuits are plenty at **Keswick Hall**, which is home to an 18-hole golf course that opened in 1939. Sixty years later, Arnold Palmer redesigned the course to make use of the area's natural hazards: wetlands, winding creeks, and 200-year-old oak trees. Even those who struggle with the woods and water will appreciate why Jefferson called this area "the Eden of the United States”.*

#### **THE ROBB REPORT**

*“Traditionally overlooked in rankings of Virginia's elite resort courses, the Keswick Club, just east of Charlottesville, deserves a place on the honor roll. Although recently lengthened, Keswick is really a finesse course. Long hitters may have wedges and short irons into many of the greens, but if they fail to place their approach shots in the right spots on the glassy surfaces, they will suffer. The course's location, amid rolling hills fifteen miles from Jefferson's Monticello, is spectacular.”*

#### **TRAVEL + LEISURE GOLF**

*“The Keswick Club, located just east of Charlottesville, offers unhurried bliss in pristine surrounding. Consistently ranked as one of the great golf resorts in the world, the Keswick Club has its Audubon*

*Environmental Certification, plenty of wildlife and a terrifically conditioned course that demands accurate iron play and cautious putting.*

**VIRGINIA GOLFER**

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**ERIC McGRAW**

*Head Golf Professional*

*Keswick Club – Keswick, Virginia*

In the case of Eric McGraw, head golf professional at Virginia’s Keswick Club, it’s like father, like son. Make that, like father, like son and Uncle, too – golfing professionals all. With talk of stance, distance, swings, and doglegs constantly swirling around him, it’s no small wonder why Eric was soon getting a (proper) grip on his game early on in Abilene, Texas. In those days, the eyes of Texas were watching the younger McGraw as he became a starter for Western Texas Junior College. Later, he turned heads at the University of Central Oklahoma when he hit drives right down the middle of the fairways.

Before coming to the Keswick Club in April 1999 and signing on to become the head pro at its Arnold Palmer-designed signature course, McGraw was the head professional at Brandermill Country Club near Richmond, Virginia, a post he held for four years. At Keswick, he oversees daily operations of the superb 18-hole layout for members and their guests, as well as for those staying at the elegant 48-room Keswick Hall at Monticello, part of the complex that also includes Keswick Estates.

McGraw plans and runs member and outside golf tournaments, works directly with hotel staff concerning group and individual golfing opportunities for guests, has created the ladies’ golf program at the Club, and is heavily involved in the junior golf camps that run annually in July and August.

A member of the Board of Directors for the Middle Atlantic PGA, McGraw received his Class -A PGA Membership in 1993.

Along with its excellent golf course, Keswick Club, located in the rolling Virginia countryside minutes from the famous Monticello home of Thomas Jefferson, offers a spa, tennis courts, an indoor/outdoor pool, an open-air pavilion pool and restaurant. Keswick Hall at Monticello, owned and operated by Orient-Express Hotels, features 48 individually decorated guestrooms featuring beautiful antiques and original artwork as well as elegant dining in Fossett’s. Keswick Estates is a series of home sites with superb views of the surrounding countryside.

Will Eric McGraw and wife Patti's four children, Taylor, Ian, Molly and Michael follow in the family tradition? Only time will tell.

For further information call Keswick Hall at Monticello at 800-274-5391. Additional information is available at [www.keswick.com](http://www.keswick.com).

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## **NANCY HOLT**

*Head Tennis Professional*

*Keswick Club*

Raised on Long Island, New York, Nancy Holt started playing tennis at the age of six when her godmother gave her the gift of lessons at a local tennis and beach club; she was hooked immediately. She continued playing tennis through her childhood and when she attended the University of Bridgeport she played on the school team, ranking as the top player in New England.

Upon graduating from University, she immediately starting working in the industry. She achieved her United States Professional Tennis Association (USPTA) professional certification in 1974. Her background includes positions at some of the most renowned tennis and country clubs in North America, including: The Stony Brook Tennis Academy in (Stony Brook, NY); the Country Club of Charleston (Charleston, SC); The Hilton Head Racquet Club (Hilton Head, SC); Laver's Resort and Racquet Club (Delray Beach, FL) and the Polo Club Boca Raton, (Boca, FL).

She joined Keswick Hall at Monticello as the Head Tennis Professional in 1992. Offering group and individual instruction for adults and juniors, Nancy's approach is to focus on the individual. "I first look at each player's age, goals and desires. The bottom line is to make the time spent on tennis instruction productive, but most importantly, fun. It's after all, for 99% of our members and guests; tennis is a sport to simply enjoy."

Nancy also manages USTA (United States Tennis Association) Leagues for Adults, Mixed and Seniors as well as organizes round robin tournaments, and promotional demonstration days for Wilson and Interclub matches.

An avid player whenever she is not teaching, she is the USTA Virginia District League Coordinator and is the current chair for the USTA Virginia Adult League and on the Board of the Charlottesville Tennis Patrons Association, whose main focus is to make the game of tennis accessible to children of all backgrounds.

Nancy offers customizes tennis packages to guests of Keswick Hall, which include instruction and play as well as accommodation and pampering services at the spa.

Keswick Hall at Monticello offers five lite tennis courts (three clay, two hard surface), pro shop equipment for sale, rental, demo, two computerized Playmate ball machines, and ladies and men's locker rooms. A prime example of Italianate architecture, the golden hued Keswick Hall is set amid an Eden-like setting of both formal and informal gardens on Keswick Estate. With 600-acres of lush Virginia countryside, the 48-room Keswick Hall and Keswick Club feature a private 18-hole Arnold Palmer signature golf course, three pools, tennis courts, a fitness center complete with spa, a fine dining and club house restaurant. Originally built as a private home in 1912, Keswick Hall provides a country estate experience, with cozy public spaces, plush furnishings, and wood burning fireplaces throughout. Individually decorated guest rooms feature collections of French and English antiques, with butler style service as an accompaniment. For more information visit [www.keswick.com](http://www.keswick.com) or 1-800-274-5391.

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## KESWICK HALL LAUNCHES EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

**Charlottesville, Virginia (March 11, 2009)** – Long recognized as a premier facility for business travel, meetings and retreats, Keswick Hall is further enhancing its business services offering by partnering with Odyssey, Inc., a leading executive development firm, to launch the **Keswick Executive Development Center**. The Center brings together some of the finest in accommodations and executive development services anywhere. For more information visit [Keswick Executive Development Center](#).

The new Executive Development Center will provide organizations conducting business meetings at Keswick Hall with immediate on-site access to Odyssey's premier consultants, allowing them to improve and optimize business strategy sessions. Groups selecting Keswick Hall will gain directly from this valuable partnership, walking away with new strategies, skills and inspiration.

Matthias Smith, Resident Manager at Keswick Hall noted, "In the current business landscape, to have an edge means all the difference. Our partnership with Odyssey enables Keswick Hall to provide top level executives with an advantage over competition, in turn positioning itself as an attractive business destination for groups."

Tim Allard, CEO of Odyssey commented, "This alliance gives executive and leadership teams the best of both worlds: targeted and focused executive development services to increase business performance combined with world class accommodations and a beautiful setting."

Within easy reach of major business centers and airports, but private enough to create an environment of rejuvenation and comfort, the property features more than 7,000 square feet of meeting and conference space, making it an ideal setting for business gatherings ranging from eight to 300 guests. The hotel's banqueting department is capable of executing memorable off-site themed events and other movable

feasts at nearby attractions as well. With its unobtrusive yet attentive service, award-winning cuisine, and exciting “free time” activities for delegates (including an 18-hole Signature Arnold Palmer golf course), the hotel is a favorite for discerning professionals and meeting/incentive planners worldwide.

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### **About Keswick Hall, Club & Estate**

Located in the foothills of the magnificent Blue Ridge Mountains, the 600-acre Keswick Estate is situated in the heart of horse and wine country just east of historic Charlottesville, Virginia. The Estate is the magnificent backdrop for Keswick Hall, a 48 room country house hotel, Keswick Club, a private club featuring an eighteen-hole Arnold Palmer Signature golf course, and our exclusive residential estate home sites. The Estate’s spectacular setting of gently rolling hills, open meadows, and splendid foliage provide our guests with a relaxed and tranquil environment ---a retreat where guests feel protected from the stresses of modern day life. Owned and managed by Orient-Express Hotels, the Estate is another jewel in their uniquely distinctive portfolio of hotels, trains and cruises throughout the world. [www.keswick.com](http://www.keswick.com)

### **About Odyssey:**

Odyssey, Inc. is an executive development consulting firm located in Orange County, Virginia, founded in 1999. Odyssey’s consultants have worked with thousands of top executives from premier companies, government agencies, industry associations and non-profits.

Odyssey specializes in executive coaching, facilitated business planning and strategy development, developing high performance teams/cultures, hiring and selection tools and human performance solutions for service and sales organizations.

Additional information about Odyssey Inc. and their products and services provided is available at <http://www.odysseyhps.com>, or 540-832-5750. For more information about the Keswick Executive Development Center, go to [Keswick Executive Development Center](#) or call 540-832-5750.



## AWARD-WINNING HISTORY OF KESWICK HALL

### *Travel + Leisure*

#### **“World’s Best Awards – T + L 500” 2005 - 2009**

#### **“World’s Best Awards - Top 100 Hotels in the Continental U.S. and Canada” 2004, 2005**

In the January 2009 issue of *Travel + Leisure* magazine, Keswick Hall at Monticello was selected as one of The T+L 500. Each year *Travel + Leisure* magazine publishes their T+L 500, a compendium of the greatest hotels around the globe as chosen by their readers in the annual **World’s Best Survey**. In August 2005, *Travel + Leisure* magazine ranked Keswick Hall at Monticello as one of the Top 100 hotels in the Continental U.S. and Canada. The magazine received nearly a half million evaluations making their 10<sup>th</sup> annual World’s Best Readers Poll, “the most comprehensive (and competitive) awards to date.” For the past decade, readers have identified their favorite hotels, cities, islands, airlines and more. *Travel + Leisure* is the authority, setting trends, and motivating readers and is a leading source of information on travel, hotels, resorts, dining and entertainment. The magazine reaches the sophisticated travelers with a circulation of nearly one million.

### *Condé Nast Traveler*

#### **"World's Best 700 Hotels, Resorts & Cruise Lines" - Gold List 2005 - 2008**

#### **Top 10 U.S. Mainland Hotels Readers’ Choice Awards” - 2007**

#### **“The World’s Best Place to Stay” Gold List 2001 – 2006, 2009**

#### **“The Best Place to Stay in Virginia” Gold List 2000, 2004 (Number 1 in 2004)**

#### **“Top 100 The Best in the World” 2003, 2006**

#### **“Top 25 North American Small Hotels” Gold List 2000**

#### **“Best 500 Hotels in the World” Gold List 1998**

#### **“Top 25 Small Hotels in the World” Gold List 1998**

There is nothing wrong with wanting the best, which is what you’ll find in the Gold List. More than 32,000 *Condé Nast Traveler* subscribers vote in the Reader’s Choice Poll, from which is distilled the world’s top-scoring hotels and resorts. For the faces behind the figures, *Condé Nast* interviewed thousands of readers, gathering insights on everything from the softness of the sheets to the succulence of the steaks. The result? An insider’s guide to the best in the world today, a commodity as precious as gold.

Keswick Hall has been chosen for several years in the annual “Reader’s Choice Awards” and in 2006 was singled out as one of the top three in design. A reader survey totaling over 32,000 responses gives the *Condé Nast Traveler* poll an authority unique in the world of travel.

*Condé Nast Traveler* readers are tough critics, discriminating travelers, and, when satisfied, emphatic in their praise. *Condé Nast Traveler* magazine has chosen Keswick Hall as the “Best Small Hotel in the United States”.

### *Andrew Harper’s Hideaway Report*

#### **“Top 20 U.S. Hideaways – Little Gems” 2007, 2008**

#### **“Top 20 U.S. Resort Hideaways” 1999, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006**

*Andrew Harper’s Hideaway Report* is the ultimate travel guide seeking candid reviews of enchanting luxury hotels, resorts and hideaways in the United States and around the world. Most recently, Keswick Hall ranked #15 in the “Little Gems” category which ranks its top 20 favorite resorts with 50 rooms or less. To assure your wholly independent observations, noted travel authority Andrew Harper travels incognito - booking into hotels and paying his own way as would any typical guest. Hotels don’t know his

real name, or what he looks like because he refuses to introduce himself during inspections. So while you may have seen *Hideaway Report* favorably mentioned in *Forbes*, *Fortune*, *Mirabella*, *Vogue*, *The New York Times* and other such publications, his identity has never been revealed.

### **AAA Four Diamond Award**

**2001 - 2008**

The Four Diamond Award is AAA's second-highest award level, behind the Five Diamond Award. AAA bases hotel ratings on the quality of the surroundings, service and food. AAA inspectors conducted unannounced checks of each hotel and restaurant that received the award. Travelers rely on Diamond ratings in the AAA TourBooks to guide them in choosing an establishment. Four Diamond properties offer luxurious accommodations as well as above-average staff and housekeeping, and other quality amenities. AAA's Diamond rating program is the only hotel and restaurant review system in the nation that uses specially trained, full-time field representatives. Inspections of Four- and Five-Diamond hotels include at least two unannounced overnight visits each year. Inspectors review and rate exterior grounds, public areas, guestroom decor and ambience, bathrooms, housekeeping and maintenance. Once the inspection process is complete, the properties that meet all requirements are awarded a rating of one to five Diamonds.

### **Wine Spectator**

**“Best of Award of Excellence” 2005, 2006, 2008**

**“Award of Excellence” 1997 - 2004**

*Wine Spectator's* “Best of Award of Excellence,” gives special recognition to restaurants whose lists display either vintage depth, with vertical offerings of several top producers from major regions, or excellent breadth spread over several wine growing regions. These wine lists typically offer 400 or more selections with superior presentation, some over more than 1,000 selections.

### **Wine Enthusiast Magazine**

**“Award of Unique Distinction” 2008**

Wine Enthusiast's Restaurant Awards are based on the quality of the overall wine program, as opposed to judging based solely on the size of a restaurant's wine list. So, all kinds of dining establishments—big and small, with specialized or more general lists—are considered and only those with the best selection, service, individuality and value are selected. Winners are chosen by a panel which includes both editorial staff and outside wine experts.

### **Departures**

**“TOP 25 BOUTIQUE HOTELS IN US AND CANADA” 2004**

In the May/June issue of *Departures Magazine*, Keswick Hall at Monticello was named as one of the Top 25 Boutique Hotels in the US and Canada in the publication's *Readers' Favorites Survey: Travel*. More than 51,000 readers wrote, emailed and called to complete the survey developed by the editors of *Departures*, which is published in association with American Express. The survey covered hotels, spas, resorts, cruises and airlines in the United States and Canada. *Departures* said of the Readers Survey that it “represents the readers continued uncompromising judgment and taste.” *Departures Magazine* is written for American Express Platinum Cardholders as a luxury lifestyle magazine and has a circulation of 683,137. Articles feature information on travel, art and culture, men's style, jewelry and interior design with an eye on global adventures and purchases. The publication also provides hi-tech updates and reports on wines, dining and new accommodations worldwide.

### **Robb Report Luxury Resorts**

**The 100 Best Places to Stay - 2006**

Keswick Hall was honored in the international luxury world's 100 most exceptional resorts by the editors of *Robb Report Luxury Resorts* magazine. The magazine said of Keswick Hall “Its leather club chairs, handsome armoires, overstuffed ottomans and American and English Antiques help the resort retain a homey atmosphere, one that feels like an estate of a country squire who has hired a brilliant service and kitchen staff”. *Robb Report Luxury Resorts* is the essential source for travelers for whom

price is no object. The magazine offers first-hand accounts of 100 exclusive properties from around the world, all of which meet or exceed the highest standards for service, setting, architecture and amenities. “The publication of *Robb Report Luxury Resorts* culminates a yearlong effort by our editorial staff, who, in addition to drawing from their own journeys, compiled feedback from hundreds of writers, readers and experts in the luxury travel field,” explains Editor Bruce Wallin.

**Mobil Four Stars**  
**2001, 2002, 2003, 2004**

Achievement of the Mobil Four-Star Award reflects a recipient's commitment to not only provide an exemplary experience in a spectacular setting but also a dedication to anticipate guest needs and surpass guests' expectations. Incognito professional evaluations, along with announced facility inspections, consumer reviews, and independent media reports, are carefully reviewed to determine a property's rating. The Mobil Award is not the result of just one person's opinion but rather the culmination of several objective inputs. Mobil Four-Star Award, which honors properties for outstanding achievement in facilities, service, and provision of a distinctive experience for the discerning consumer.

**Esquire**  
**Best New Restaurants 2004**

In the November 2004 issue of *Esquire* magazine, Fossett's was named as one of the Best New Restaurants in 2004 by Food Critic, John Mariani. Established in 1933, *Esquire* has a circulation of 717,000 and focuses on current events, living trends and career evolution, with features on fashion, the arts, politics, media, travel and dining. It is designed to inform the contemporary male of the changing role of men in today's society.

**Zagat's 2006“Top U.S. Hotels, Resorts & Spas”**

With a room rating of 26 and a service rating of 25, *Zagat's* said of Keswick at Monticello, “Laura Ashley meets Thomas Jefferson” at this “wonderful” Orient-Express property. With “spacious rooms”, “each with its own theme”, and “outstanding grounds”. Gastronomers gush the “food alone is worth a visit”. The *Zagat's* Top U.S. Hotel Resorts & Spas Survey is created from the shared experiences of nearly 16,000 people and is based on roughly 600,00 hotel room nights per year. Most surveyors spent several nights at the properties on which they voted. In addition to leisure travelers this survey includes the participation of nearly 900 members of the Society of Travel Agents. Considered the candid, no punches-pulled guide to where to stay and eat *Zagat* Surveys have been called “A necessity second only to a valid credit card.” by *The New York Times*. *Zagat* rates room, service, dining and public/spaces/facilities. A rating of 20 – 25 is considered “very good to excellent”, while a 26-30 is “extraordinary to perfection”.

**LUXURY LINK**  
**“World's Best Hotels” 2006**

Keswick Hall has been designated as one of only 50 properties throughout the world to receive this prestigious new honor. *Luxury Link's* methodology of selection is based on their editors' determination of service, facilities, location, uniqueness of property, and overall levels of luxury evaluated in conjunction with the opinions of their users. Founded in 1997, *Luxury Link* is the world's premier online luxury travel resource. Showcasing more than 1000 extraordinary hotels and resorts, cruises, tours and villas in more than 60 countries, *Luxury Link* provides unparalleled access to exclusive offers and insider tips for the sophisticated traveler.

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