PRESS RELEASE

*Matsunoki Restaurant wins prestigious Wine Spectator award in the category ‘Best of Award of Excellence’*

**Mali Lošinj, Croatia, June 28, 2021 - Lošinj's Matsunoki restaurant, located in the luxurious Hotel Bellevue in Čikat Bay, has won the title of “Best of Award of Excellence”, marked with two wine glasses, according to the 2021 Restaurant Awards presented by the renowned American magazine Wine Spectator. Thanks to Matsunoki’s carefully selected wine program, the only Japanese restaurant on the Croatian islands is included in the restaurant guide of Wine Spectator, a leading authority in the world of wine whose editions are followed by over 3 million readers** worldwide.

The „Best of Award of Excellence“ accolades are awarded by the Wine Spectator magazine to restaurants offering wine lists with excellent breadth across multiple winegrowing regions and significant vertical depth of top producers, along with superior presentation. Typically offering 350 or more selections, these restaurants are destinations for serious wine lovers, showing a deep commitment to wine, both in the cellar and through their service team.

The world's most trusted wine magazine and leading authority on wine quality is known for its conservative evaluation process that is guided by the highest standards and ethical principles. Its experts taste and grade more than 15,000 different wines in blind tastings a year.

“The Wine Spectator Award is yet another tribute to all those who, with their hard work and vision, have created a unique culinary concept at the Matsunoki restaurant, a place where the richness of local ingredients from the Cres-Lošinj archipelago are combined with precise Japanese techniques. We have worked hard on the wine list to satisfy the most discerning gourmets and we see the recognition of the Wine Spectator as a confirmation of our combined efforts, but also as an incentive for even greater achievements,” said Francesco Pantalone, the director of the Hotel Bellevue.

The 5-star Hotel Bellevue is part of the luxury collection of the Lošinj Hotels & Villas brand and boasts numerous international awards, such as the best luxury hotel in Croatia. It is located in the heart of a centuries-old pine forest in the beautiful Čikat Bay, which is adorned with the scent and purity of the clear blue sea, and known for its famous Bellevue Spa Clinic, holder of the prestigious title of Croatia's Best Hotel Spa by the World Spa Awards.

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