

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## THE RANCH AT LAGUNA BEACH ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH EQUATOR COFFEES, EXPANDING SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS WITH RENOWNED CALIFORNIA COFFEE ROASTER

Blending sustainability and community values into all property partnerships, Equator Coffees enhances The Ranch at Laguna Beach's commitment to excellence and responsible sourcing



LAGUNA BEACH, CA (August 15, 2024) – <u>The Ranch at Laguna Beach</u> proudly announces a new partnership with renowned coffee roaster <u>Equator Coffees</u>, integrating the high-quality, sustainably sourced coffee brand across the resort. This collaboration highlights The Ranch at Laguna Beach's dedication to providing an outstanding guest experience while upholding its commitment to eco-friendly practices through exceptional coffee. The Ranch at Laguna Beach marks Equator Coffees' newest Southern California location as they continue to expand their presence in the region.

"We are honored to introduce Equator Coffees to our valued guests," said Kurt Bjorkman, Chief Operating Officer of The Ranch at Laguna Beach. "Over the past three decades, Equator has aligned with some of the most respected restaurants in the US, their commitment to quality, sustainability and a company culture of taking care of their employees and stakeholders is what gets me most excited about this new partnership."

Visitors at The Ranch at Laguna Beach will now enjoy Equator Coffees at The Porch, Harvest, Young's Beach, and Lost Pier with options to order through room service and event catering. This resort-wide integration ensures that every guest can experience the premium quality and flavor that has made Equator Coffees a favorite among culinary leaders and discerning coffee drinkers alike.

Founded in 1995 by Helen Russell and Brooke McDonnell, Equator Coffees has built a reputation for its quality, mindful practices, and social responsibility. Starting in a Marin County garage, the company has grown into a leading coffee roaster with twelve cafes throughout California, supplying top-tier

establishments such as The French Laundry, Meadowood, and Atelier Crenn. Equator Coffees' mission, "Coffee Can Be a Force for Good," has driven the company to source and roast coffee in a way that positively impacts lives and communities. As a certified B Corporation, Equator Coffees continually strives to improve its eco-friendly efforts, transparency in the coffee production process, and support for a fairer international coffee economy.

Helen Russell, Co-Founder and Executive Chair of Equator Coffees, expressed her enthusiasm for the partnership stating, "We are thrilled to partner with The Ranch at Laguna Beach, a resort that shares our dedication to sustainability and exceptional quality. This collaboration allows us to bring our thoughtfully sourced and crafted coffee to a new community of guests who value mindful and delicious experiences. We are excited to be part of this beautiful destination and contribute to the initiatives that make The Ranch at Laguna Beach a leader in responsible hospitality."

The Ranch at Laguna Beach's new partnership with Equator Coffees is a significant addition to its numerous sustainability initiatives. The property is a founding member of Beyond Green, contributing to global standards of sustainability aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Other efforts include recycling glass bottles into sand for its golf course, saving 20 million gallons of water annually by using reclaimed water, and tree planting in collaboration with The Ecology Center. The resort's signature restaurant, Harvest, is Laguna Beach's first Ocean Friendly Certified restaurant by the Surfrider Foundation, emphasizing local, sustainable sourcing and operating an on-site biodynamic farm.

For additional information about The Ranch at Laguna Beach, please visit <u>theranchlb.com</u>. To learn more about Equator Coffees, visit <u>equatorcoffees.com</u>.

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## About The Ranch at Laguna Beach

Spread over 87 acres where the canyon meets the sea in the heart of Orange County, California, The Ranch at Laguna Beach is a boutique, coastal resort steeped in history since its inception as an 1800's homestead. With 97 guest rooms and suites, a half-acre biodynamic farm, the only golf course in Laguna Beach, a 3,000 square foot indoor/outdoor Spa and robust spaces for meetings & events, The Ranch at Laguna Beach embodies the essence of all the iconic, artistic beach community of Laguna Beach has to offer. The resort's diverse dining program includes farm-to-fork California cuisine at Harvest restaurant, The Porch, locally sourced hook-to-fork cuisine at Lost Pier Cafe, along with Young's Beach Shack at Salt Creek Beach. From property programming such as yoga, stargazing and outdoor exploration, to destination adventures of dolphin safaris, whale watching, and immersion into key cultural elements of the destination, The Ranch at Laguna Beach provides authentic California experiences for locals and travelers alike. With sustainability at the forefront of all resort initiatives, The Ranch at Laguna Beach is a founding member of Beyond Green, a global portfolio of hotels, resorts, and lodges that exemplify sustainability leadership. For more information, please visit <u>www.theranchlb.com</u>.

## **About Equator Coffees:**

In 1995, Equator Founders Helen Russell and Brooke McDonnell began their values-driven path, roasting coffee in a Marin County, CA garage. Possessing an obsessive commitment to green coffee sourcing and unparalleled roasting expertise, Helen and Brooke have committed over 29 years to sustainable and fair trade coffee practices all in the name of creating a remarkable coffee experience for consumers. Today, Equator Coffees is a retail and wholesale coffee roaster and coffee farm owner with twelve retail cafes throughout California—from Marin County to San Francisco to Oakland and beyond. Throughout the years, Equator Coffees has spearheaded industry-leading sourcing and roasting practices, and has forged progressive partnerships with Michelin-starred chefs, specialty grocers, tech campuses, and more. Women-owned, LGBTQ-founded and an early adopter of Fair Trade certification, Equator Coffees is the first California coffee roaster to achieve B Corp Certification. https://www.equatorcoffees.com/