



## **CARDOZA-BUNGEY TRAVEL ANNOUNCES RELATIONSHIP WITH RHONE RANGERS, PROVIDING EVENT TRAVEL SERVICES AND UNIQUE WINE TRAVEL EXPERIENCES**

PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA (January 8, 2013) – Today Cardoza-Bungey Travel announced a new relationship as the preferred travel service selected by Rhone Rangers, America's leading non-profit educational organization dedicated to promoting American Rhone varietal wines. Cardoza-Bungey Travel will partner with Rhone Rangers and their nearly 200 vintner members to manage travel arrangements for their public events in the US, and create exclusive winemaker-led travel experiences on their behalf.

Cheryl Quist, Rhone Rangers Executive Director, said "We are excited to offer the personalized service, elite travel benefits, and favorable rates that Cardoza-Bungey Travel will provide to our valued Rhone Rangers winery members and their customers. Cardoza-Bungey has an excellent reputation as one of the top agencies in Northern California; they understand the needs and desires of travelers interested in wine-related tourism and have access to a global network of services in the wine regions of the world."

Tony Cardoza, President of Cardoza-Bungey Travel, said, "We are proud to have been selected as Rhone Rangers' preferred travel partner. Rhone Rangers events offer our clients access to extraordinary wines and wine-related travel experiences with world-class winemakers. So many of our clients are enthusiastic about award-winning wines and often turn to us to pursue wine-related experiences when traveling in the US and internationally. We look forward to working with the diverse members of the Rhone Rangers to create innovative travel opportunities for our mutual clients."

The Rhone Rangers will "ride" into San Francisco March 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 for the sixteenth consecutive year at Fort Mason for the largest American Rhone wine event in the country. Over 2,000 consumers and members of the trade are expected to attend for the opportunity to taste over 500 of the best American Rhone wines from more than 100 Rhone Rangers member wineries. To kick off this new partnership, Cardoza-Bungey will offer a two-day San Francisco event package including a deluxe hotel stay, a VIP winemaker reception for Cardoza-Bungey guests, winemaker dinner, two seminars, the Grand Tasting, and a live and silent auction. Event tickets, weekend stay packages, and airline tickets can be purchased by calling Lisa Baserga at 650-473-8507, by email to [rhonerangers@cardoza.com](mailto:rhonerangers@cardoza.com) or at [www.cardoza.com](http://www.cardoza.com).

The San Francisco event auction will feature wine travel experiences all around the world, with trips created by Cardoza-Bungey Travel—led by the Rhone Ranger member winemakers themselves! Partial proceeds from the travel auction will benefit the Rhone Rangers Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships to help educate the next generation of American Rhone winemakers. Over the last decade the Rhone Rangers have awarded thousands of dollars in grants to deserving students in accredited viticulture and enology programs in the US at University of California Davis, California State University Fresno, California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo and Washington State University.



### **About Cardoza-Bungey Travel**

Cardoza-Bungey Travel, a family-owned company, is one of the Bay Area's premier travel agencies and is an affiliate of Worldview Travel. As a longtime member of Virtuoso, North America's most respected network of travel specialists, the company is placed in the top 1% of travel agencies. The agency enjoys personal relationships with the world's most respected cruise, tour, hotel, and transportation providers, and is proud to have earned "Preferred Partner" status with many global luxury travel brands. Cardoza-Bungey has served Bay Area travelers for nearly 75 years with offices in beautiful downtown Palo Alto, CA and has been voted "Best Travel Agency" by the readers of the Palo Alto Daily News. For more information please visit [www.cardoza.com](http://www.cardoza.com)

### **About Virtuoso**

Virtuoso® is the industry's leading luxury travel network. This by-invitation-only organization comprises over 300 agencies with more than 6,000 elite travel specialists in 22 countries in North and South America, the Caribbean, Australia and New Zealand, as well as over 1,000 of the world's best travel providers and premier destinations. The network's member agencies generate over \$5.1 billion annually in travel sales, making the group the most powerful in the luxury travel segment. Their relationships with the finest travel companies provide the network's affluent clientele with exclusive amenities, rare experiences and privileged access. For more information, please visit [www.virtuoso.com](http://www.virtuoso.com).

### **About the Rhone Rangers**

The Rhone Rangers are a group of nearly 200 winemakers dedicated to making wines from the 22 grape varieties originally made famous in France's Rhone Valley. These varieties range from the better-known Syrah and Viognier to the up-and-coming Mourvèdre, Grenache and Roussanne, and the obscure (but delicious) Counoise and Picpoul. The Rhone Rangers started from a small gathering of American vintners who began meeting informally in the 1980s. As their numbers expanded, the group organized themselves under the name "Rhone Rangers." The Rhone Rangers is a non-profit organization focused on promoting the enjoyment of Rhone varietal wines produced in the United States. These grapes include the 22 traditional varieties approved by the French government grown in the Cotes du Rhone, as well as Durif (Petite Sirah). In order for a winery to join the Rhone Rangers, they must produce at least one wine that contains 75% of any single approved varietal (or combination of these varietals).

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