



**CELEBRATED NEW YORK CITY RESTAURANT VETERANS *MARIO BATALI*
AND *JOE BASTIANICH* OPEN A PAIR OF HOTSPOTS INSIDE THE
VENETIAN.**

Las Vegas, Nevada (June 5, 2007)-From gourmet tasting menus to quick antipasti, the Dynamic Duo, Mario Batali and Joseph Bastianich, opened their first Las Vegas restaurants in The Venetian Resort-Hotel-Casino.

“Batali and Bastianich complement The Venetian’s already existing line-up of culinary greats and we are pleased they chose us for their first venture in Las Vegas,” says Rob Goldstein president and chief operating officer of The Venetian.

“Las Vegas has the most exciting gourmet scene going on in the world right now,” says celebrity chef Mario Batali. “Under the roof of The Venetian there is an extensive list of amazing respected chefs and culinary greats that it was easy to choose to open my first Las Vegas restaurants at a great destination such as The Venetian.”

B&B Ristorante and *Enoteca San Marco* offer two entirely different dining experiences but both are stamped with the Batali-Bastianich charm.

B&B Ristorante, the fine-dining option, most resembles Batali and Bastianich’s flagship New York City restaurant, *Babbo Ristorante e Enoteca*. Guests dining at *B&B Ristorante* will have the opportunity to sample Batali-designed cuisine, executed by Chef Zach Allen, a 10-year veteran of the restaurant group. The adventurous can indulge in Rabbit with Brussels Sprouts, Pancetta and Carrot vinaigrette or Fennel-Dusted Sweetbreads with Sweet-and-Sour Onions, while more reserved diners can look for such *antipasti* as Prosciutto San Daniele Riserva with Black Pepper and toasted course bread rubbed with garlic, doused in olive oil and sprinkled with salt; *primi* such as Spaghettini with Spicy Budding Chives, Sweet Garlic and a one-pound Lobster; *secondi* like Mario’s Barbequed Skirt Steak with Endive alla Piastra and Salsa Verde.

Customers can also choose from a selection of tasting menus including the seven-course pasta tasting menu or a six-course traditional tasting menu, featuring classic dishes and seasonal specialties, both can be enjoyed with wine pairings.

And no Italian meal would be complete without il *dolci*. Ingenious twists on classic Italian sweets include Warm Chocolate Budino with Sicilian Peppermint Frozen Ricotta, Panna Cotta with Honey and Star Anise Cream, or assorted gelati and sorbetti.

The 6,500 square-foot restaurant seats approximately 140 people and exudes “Classical Old World Charm, with lots of wood, lots of leather—and lots of wine,” says Bastianich, a noted wine expert and wine-maker. The restaurant has an extensive, all-Italian wine list with over 1,000 vintages available by the bottle and 30 by the glass.

Enoteca San Marco, which seats 160 guests, is a more casual restaurant done in Venetian-style décor with white marble and light woods. It is a gathering place where visitors can enjoy *la bella vita*- the beautiful life. Guests can watch Italian street performers and sip a quartino of wine; attend a scheduled wine- tasting with one of San Marco’s sommeliers; snack on antipasti like Rock Shrimp or Celery Root Salad, or an antipasti plate of Prosciutto di Parma and Spicy house-made Finocchiona before sitting down for a complete dinner of pizza, pasta, piatti and house-made artisanal gelati in the dining room.

For more information or to make reservations for *Enoteca San Marco* please call (702) 677-3390 or visit www.venetian.com or www.enotecasanmarco.com or for *B&B Ristorante* please call (702) 266-9977 or visit www.venetian.com or www.mariobatali.com.

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About the Venetian Resort Hotel Casino

The Venetian Resort-Hotel-Casino, a repeated recipient of the AAA’s Four Diamond Award and Mobil Four-Star, is one of the world’s most luxurious resort and convention destinations. Re-creating Venice’s legendary landmarks, the resort offers unmatched service and quality for leisure and corporate guests. Located in the heart of the Las Vegas Strip, The Venetian features The Grand Canal Shoppes, an indoor streetscape complete with gondolas and singing gondoliers, the Canyon Ranch SpaClub, world-class gaming, exquisite restaurants, the Guggenheim-Hermitage Museum, and a wide variety of entertainment venues on its premises, as well as extensive convention and corporate services.