

**CONNECT WITH THE LAND AT THE NEW FARM TO TABLE  
FARMHOUSE SPA BY FRANCIS & ALEXANDER**  
*New Sonoma County Spa is First by Legendary Spa Duo*

*Russian River Valley, Calif. February 19, 2010.* Farmhouse Inn, Restaurant & Spa has opened a distinctive, new, farm –to-table spa that connects guests to the abundance of the land through restorative and rejuvenating treatments. Farmhouse Spa by Francis & Alexander draws upon the authentic farm heritage of proprietors Catherine & Joe Bartolomei, the surrounding countryside of Sonoma County and a team of inspired collaborators. Opened in partnership with acclaimed spa gurus Francis & Alexander and conceived as a natural extension to the farm-inspired experience that defines Farmhouse, this first spa by Francis & Alexander offers natural, sustainable, farm-inspired treatments property-wide, to bring a high level of wellness to body and soul.

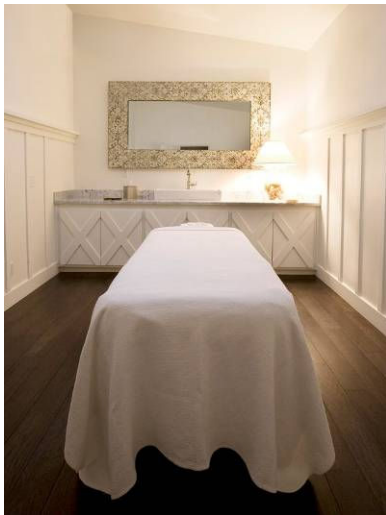
Fifth-generation resident of Russian River Valley, Farmhouse co-owner Catherine Bartolomei says, “For years Joe and I have dreamed of "Spa at Farmhouse", as a farm to table concept, embracing and incorporating our ideal of sustainable, local and seasonal. Honey from our bees, carrots from our garden, grapes from our vineyard, delivered to both the kitchen in the restaurant and the kitchen in the spa. Beautiful produce artfully prepared to nourish our guests inside and out. Aaaaah, to say we're excited is truly an understatement.”



Farmhouse Spa blurs the line between spa and in-room offerings, and edible and beauty ingredients. Some of the bounty of the local produce that arrives for the restaurant is even used in the spa such organic local carrots in the eponymous Carrot, Carrot, Carrot, an indulgent three-hour treatment. Many of the specialized treatments take place in the lavish Barn Suites where all rooms offer a steam shower and a large, outdoor terrace with fireplaces and room for two massage tables surrounded and shade by large trees. The wonderful “Barn Suite Decadence” couples treatment begins with a therapist setting up the steam shower for an invigoration scrub with salts infused with orange and Madagascar vanilla oils, a massage for two, a specially drawn bubble bath with a skin softening gel blended with the same orange and vanilla oils.

Spa partners Peggy Francis & Loma Alexander (Francis & Alexander) have consulted, operated and helped design some of the world’s most prestigious spas including The Spa at Auberge du Soleil, Solage Calistoga, 29 Spa at The Mansion on Peachtree and The Spa at Palmetto Bluff. This is their first

Francis & Alexander branded spa. They are known for their contemporary approach to time honored healing modalities and their commitment to sustainable practices for people, planet and profits. Service from the Heart is their signature, with highly trained massage therapists and estheticians attending to every detail to insure the best experience for every guest.



“Our excitement in partnering with Joe and Catherine comes from not only our shared values, but the sense of spa that permeates the entire property,” says Farmhouse Spa partner, Loma Alexander. “From the moment you walk into the reception area the aromas waft from the bath bar where you choose bath salts and cut your favorite hand-made soaps. Then to the guest rooms that have not only jetted tubs but either a sauna or steam. Located in the middle of the forest along the Russian River Valley, Farmhouse is a perfect canvas to paint a spa experience that is intimate, romantic and personal. We are thrilled to have this opportunity.”

The Farmhouse team shares a singular passion for bringing Sonoma’s best to the table. An extraordinary group of artisan producers bring specialized ingredients from the Bartolomei’s Ranch three miles away that are then integrated throughout the property. Whether it is Mick, the master gardener who harvests the fruits and vegetables for the kitchen and the spa, Doug the beekeeper who tends the Farmhouse hives whose honey is incorporated into several spa treatments, or Ulysses a local legend who nurtures the grapevines that produce wines for the restaurant as well as for use in body wraps.

Orchard Recipes also speak to the abundance of the farm and harness the rejuvenating and restorative properties of fruits and vegetables. Guests can choose an enriching mask or treatment to enhance any facial from a menu that includes Quince & Apple Gel, Sour Cherry & Spring Forest Honey, Peach Mask and the Orange Oil, Lavender and Verbena scalp & Hair Treatment. The Spring Forest honey, are from the Bartolomei Ranch (owned by the proprietors) and herbs are grown in Farmhouse’s kitchen garden. Most ingredients are organic and are bursting with nature’s goodness.



One treatment that illustrates the spa’s concept and relationship to the land is the Forest Mist Firming Treatment. The Pacific fog brings moist air from the sea, keeping the local forests green during dry summer months and the vineyards surrounding Farmhouse cool. This temperate forest mist defines the

character of all Russian River Valley wines. The treatment is designed to assist the skin's health by integrating healing nutrients from the Sonoma coast and elements from the local *terroir*. Another signature body treatment, under the Russian River Bounty banner is "Gift from the Vines" which incorporates grape seed oils, and Spring Forest honey from Farmhouse's own hives.

Additional services include massage, body wraps, skincare and specialty baths. Organic grape seeds will be used for skin therapies to further the wine country experience. Life Enrichment programs on health, beauty and stress reduction will be offered. Romantic couples treatments will be offered year round in the spa or in the comfort of the spacious Barn guest suites.

Located in the Carriage House and newly redesigned by Healdsburg's Myra Hoefler Design, the four room Spa at Farmhouse by Francis & Alexander is characterized by bold architectural accents, richly textured hand-woven fabrics, and simple, elegant furnishings that seamlessly blend clean contemporary lines with antique motifs and the rustic outdoors.



The Spa at Farmhouse by Francis & Alexander will be open seven days a week, exclusively for Farmhouse guests.

### **About Farmhouse**

Located in the stunning Russian River Valley region of Sonoma County's famed wine country, Farmhouse Inn, Restaurant & Spa is a rural sanctuary that represents the finest level of lodging, dining and spa, where eighteen sublime guest rooms and suites, a farm-fresh Michelin one star restaurant and seasonal body treatments come together in one unforgettable experience. Surrounded by world-class vineyards, the six-acre property is anchored by an elegant restored 1870 weatherboard farmhouse that houses the famed Farmhouse Restaurant, presided over by Executive Chef Steve Litke and Sonoma's only Master Sommelier, Geoff Kruth. Dotted throughout are the beautifully appointed cottage and barn accommodations that each boast fireplaces, large tubs, steam showers or saunas, luxurious bedding and modern amenities. Farmhouse also features a tranquil landscaped pool, full service spa, kitchen and cutting gardens and ample outdoor lounge areas for sophisticated relaxation. Arriving at Farmhouse, guests are immediately transported into a gracious country lifestyle and can expect warm, seasoned hospitality and memorable personal encounters. Owned by siblings Joe and Catherine Bartolomei whose family has farmed in the area for five generations, Farmhouse has evolved from a lifetime of shared family traditions that center round the rhythms of nature. 7871 River Road, Forestville, California 95436 p. (800) 464-6642, f. (707) 887-3311 [www.farmhouseinn.com](http://www.farmhouseinn.com)