



## PRESS RELEASE

### GRAND OPENING – ST. GERLACH PAVILION & MANOR FARM

Houthem-St. Gerlach, June 14, 2017

**Oostwegel Collection are delighted to announce the grand opening of St. Gerlach Pavilion & Manor Farm, today, by Her Royal Highness Margriet Princess of the Netherlands and husband Professor Pieter van Vollenhoven. To mark the occasion, two pieces of art, gifted by generous donors who share an affinity with the Château St. Gerlach estate, are unveiled at a private event for 450 guests.**

#### **Oostwegel Collection invests €11.1 million in Château St. Gerlach estate expansion**

Dating back to 1668, the Manor Farm at the entrance to the estate, has been entirely restructured and transformed into Burgemeester Quicx, Coffee & More. Supremely adaptable it not only offers a welcome draw for coffee or lunch, but also six breakout rooms for intimate meetings and events. Adjacent to the farmhouse, the contemporary pavilion designed by renowned architect, Francine Houben from Mecanoo Architecten, effortlessly blends with its historic backdrop and boasts three multifunctional meeting rooms, that can be used separately or combined to encompass a vast 850m<sup>2</sup> space, accommodating up to 750 people. Francine Houben explained, “The St. Gerlach Pavilion is designed with a generous overhanging roof and beautiful arch, using materials inspired by the surrounding landscape: limestone, bluestone and oak, ensuring a successful connection with the existing Château and newly renovated Manor Farm.”

Owner Camille Oostwegel SR said, “The spectacular St. Gerlach Pavilion and renovated Manor Farm strengthens the estates overall proposition, making it primed for the future and more relevant than ever for both leisure and business guests.”

#### **New meetings and events venue overlooking Château St. Gerlach**

Officially launched today, by Her Royal Highness Margriet Princess of the Netherland and husband Professor Pieter van Vollenhoven, The St. Gerlach Pavilion & Manor Farm have been trading since January 2017 and adds a new dimension to the existing hotel’s meetings and event spaces. Professor Pieter van Vollenhoven, whose continued support in preserving the cultural heritage of historic buildings has a connection to the estate that has endured for over 20 years, when he opened Château St. Gerlach in September 1997.

#### **Artistic tributes unveiled**

During archeological excavation, a 14<sup>th</sup>-century silver coin decorated with Johanna van Brabant’s and Philips de Stoute’s coat of arms was discovered on the site of the St. Gerlach Pavilion. To celebrate this discovery and mark the opening, artist Claudia Volders has been commissioned to create portraits of both individuals, to be hung in the Pavilion’s Johanna van Brabant salon, alongside the coins.

Additionally, the sculptor Frans van Straaten has been commissioned to create a bronze Limburg draft horse to stand between Manor Farm and St. Gerlach Pavilion entrance. Named “Bella from St. Gerlach” the statue is a celebration of Château St. Gerlach’s 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and grand opening.

#### **About Château St. Gerlach**

Nestled in the Geul Valley, on the edge of the protected Ingendael nature reserve and just ten-minutes’ drive outside Maastricht, lies luxury hotel, Château St. Gerlach. The magnificent country estate has been thoughtfully and sensitively restored to encompass 113 guestrooms, suites and serviced apartments, a renowned à la carte restaurant, popular bistro, coffee bar, lavish spa facilities and 16 meeting and event spaces, including the newly built St. Gerlach Pavilion accommodating up to 750 guests.



A member of Relais & Châteaux since 1997, Château St. Gerlach is part of Oostwegel Collection, a Limburgian family business dedicated to gracious hospitality, artisanal cuisine and historically authentic properties. For more information: [www.stgerlach.nl](http://www.stgerlach.nl)

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