

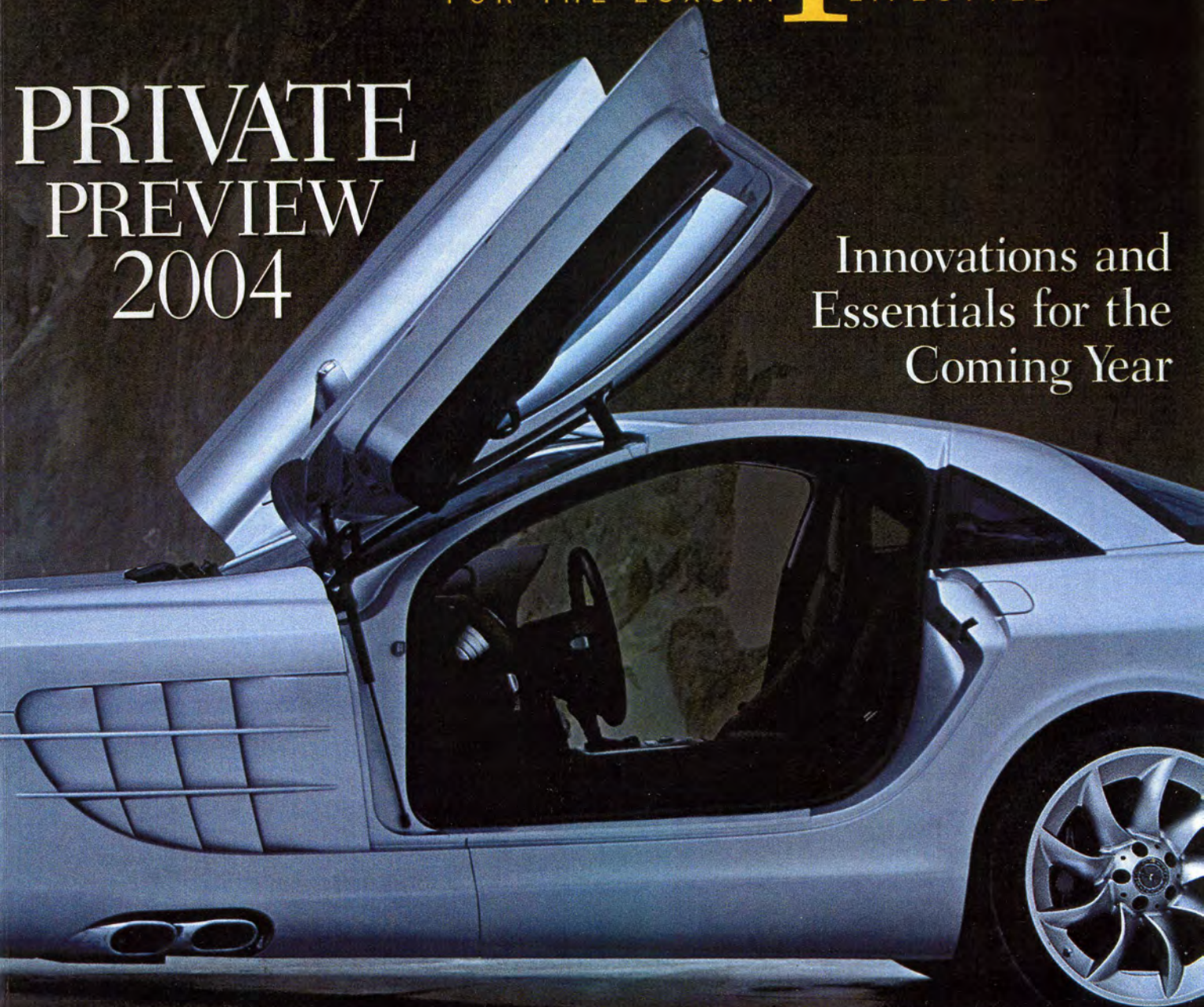
WORLD CLASS WINE COLLECTING PART THREE: STELLAR WINE CELLARS

# Robb Report

FOR THE LUXURY LIFESTYLE™

PRIVATE  
PREVIEW  
2004

Innovations and  
Essentials for the  
Coming Year



An advanced look at the latest from: Mercedes-Benz • Bugatti • BMW Motorcycles • Chaumet  
Girard-Perregaux • Cigarette • Cunard Line • Ritz-Carlton • Ulysse Nardin • Ermenegildo Zegna



\$7.99 U.S. \$9.99 CDN

robbreport.com  
CURT CO. ROBB MEDIA

OCTOBER 2003

## PRELUDE TO LEBENSKUNST

Music and art aficionados will applaud the November opening of the Le Meridien Vienna in the city's Ringstrasse. Located across from the Viennese State Opera and other cultural institutions, the hotel is part of a 110 million-euro renovation project that is converting turn-of-the-century imperial apartments into luxury properties. Minimalist yet dramatic in its decor, the hotel will include 261 rooms and 33 suites, each equipped with a wall-mounted 42-inch plasma-screen TV. Guests will have access to a fitness facility, the area's only full-service spa, a French brasserie, and a Viennese café. —J.T.

*Le Meridien Vienna, +43.1588900, [www.lemeridien.com](http://www.lemeridien.com)*

## VACATION CENTRAL

Costa Rica should continue to gain popularity as a vacation destination with the opening of a Four Seasons in February 2004. The Four Seasons Resort Costa Rica at Peninsula Papagayo will be flanked by beaches that border a set of bays on the Pacific Ocean. All 153 rooms and suites and 20 villas in the complex will offer spectacular views from either



**Above: A view from the Four Seasons Resort Costa Rica at Peninsula Papagayo. Top right: The Four Seasons Resort Whistler.**

a terrace or a treetop veranda, and many of the suites will include plunge pools. The villas, ideal for traveling families, will include a living room, a dining room that seats six, a fully equipped kitchen, either two or three bedrooms, laundry facilities, and a terrace or balcony with a plunge pool.

Arnold Palmer designed the 18-hole championship golf course, and the 16,000-square-foot spa promises "treatments inspired by the tropics" along with more traditional services such as massages. Eco-adventurers will be able to enjoy treks to nearby national parks and wildlife preserves, and sporty folk can hike, sail, surf, dive, fish, snorkel, and play tennis. Those who prefer to be as sedentary as possible on vacation can lounge on one of the resort's two private beaches. —SHEILA GIBSON STOODLEY

*Four Seasons Resort Costa Rica at Peninsula Papagayo, 212.688.2440, [www.fourseasons.com](http://www.fourseasons.com)*



## COLD COMFORT

The resort town of Whistler, north of Vancouver in British Columbia, is one of the few places in the world where skiing can be pursued year-round. The Four Seasons Resort Whistler, opening in early 2004, will capitalize on this fact. The resort will lie at the base of Blackcomb Mountain, a quarter-mile walk from the Blackcomb ski lifts and a Whistler Mountain shuttle. The resort will also provide a ski concierge, who will tune equipment, reserve lift tickets, and arrange activities for skiers of all ages and ability levels.

Because no one spends every minute on the slopes, the resort will also feature a heated outdoor pool for dips in any season, access to three golf courses, a spa that includes a private suite among its 14 rooms, a restaurant with British Columbia vintages on its wine list, and a large wood-burning fireplace in the lounge. —S.G.S.

*Four Seasons Resort Whistler, 604.689.9333, [www.fourseasons.com](http://www.fourseasons.com)*

## GRACEFUL ENTRY

Guests of the Inn of the Five Graces, which is scheduled to open formally in the spring of 2004 in Santa Fe, N.M., will not find chocolates on their pillows every night. Instead, the turndown staff will leave Native American handicrafts such as dream catchers, which are said to attract good dreams and filter out bad ones. Little touches such as this will heighten the experience of visiting the 22-suite inn. The doors will be hand-carved, the bathrooms will feature Mexican mosaic tiles, and the decorations will be drawn from a range of cultures. Pueblo and Navajo weavings, Native American and Mexican pottery, antiques of Hindu, Buddhist, or Islamic origin, and ethnic textiles such as Afghan dhurries and Turkish kilims will enliven the spaces. If you can tear yourself away from your well-appointed cocoon, you will find Santa Fe's art galleries and fine restaurants within walking distance of the inn's Barrio de Analco address. —S.G.S.

*Inn of the Five Graces, 505.992.0957, [www.fivegraces.com](http://www.fivegraces.com)*