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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Virgin Holidays Customers Choose Green Mountain Inn as "Best Hotel Ski & Snow"

Stowe, VT—June 26, 2006—There is no doubt that it is summertime in Vermont, the trees are blooming, the birds are chirping and Vermonters are dusting off their fishing poles gearing up for another summer in the Green Mountains. But the staff at The Green Mountain Inn in Stowe is dreaming of something else—winter. The Inn was recently chosen by Virgin Holidays customers as the "Best Hotel Ski & Stay" in North America. With that recognition in mind, Innkeeper Patti Clark is already preparing for the winter season.

"We want to give our customers even more reasons to stay with us during their winter vacations this year," said Clark. "We are offering incredible packages this winter so that guests can have a memorable experience in Vermont and at the Inn, even if they leave their skis at home."

Clark is referring to the Ski and Stay, the Heart of Stowe Romance, Vermont Christmas Tree and Christmas in the Village room packages offered in November and December.

**The Ski and Stay package** includes a two-night stay, two ski passes at world renowned Stowe Mountain Resort, breakfast for even the early morning skiers and convenient access to a free shuttle that takes skiers and riders to the slopes. Prices range from \$450 to \$730 per person.

**The Heart of Stowe Romance package** includes a two-night stay, a welcome bottle of champagne, a box of hand-made truffles, a pair of the Inn's signature champagne glasses, a three-course dinner for two with a bottle of house wine at the Whip Bar & Grill and a full country breakfast. Prices range from \$222 to \$333 per person.

The unique **Vermont Christmas Tree package** allows guests to choose a tree from local Payne's Christmas Tree Farm, who can even ship the tree to a guest's home. The package also includes a two-night stay, full country breakfast before heading out to pick a tree and choice of the Walton Blodgett watercolor print "The Christmas Tree" or a hand-painted Green Mountain Inn commemorative Christmas ornament. Prices range from \$179 to \$260 per person.



The **Christmas in the Village** package includes a three night stay, with a welcome bottle of the Inn's signature wine and a platter of assorted cheeses, fruits and nuts, your choice of a hand-painted Green Mountain Inn commemorative Christmas ornament or a Walton Blodgett watercolor print, a horse-drawn sleigh ride, full country breakfast and Christmas dinner in the Inn's Main Street Dining Room. Prices range from \$410 to \$576 per person.

The Green Mountain Inn was awarded the "Best Hotel Ski & Stay" in North America last fall at Virgin Holidays travel and tourism event that takes place in Battersea Park, London. The awards are selected by Virgin Holidays customers and highlight outstanding service offered by the Virgin's partner hotels and inns. Virgin Holidays was started in 1985 following the creation of Virgin Atlantic Airways in 1984. They offer holidays from England to the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, the Far East, South Africa, the Middle East, Indian Ocean, Mauritius, New Zealand and Australia plus a well-established ski programme.

The Green Mountain Inn, originally built in 1833, started out as a coaching inn for 19th-century travellers located in the heart of Stowe village. Stowe's original inn retains much of its antique charm offering 105 rooms, suites and townhouses. Guests enjoy two acclaimed restaurants, the Whip Bar & Grill and the Main Street Dining Room, specialty shops, a year-round heated outdoor pool, afternoon tea and cookies, health club facility, massage services and much more.