



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Celebrate Shenandoah National Park's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with Events and Promotions**

*March 31 marks the start of the 2011 season at the lodges within the park*

Shenandoah National Park, Va. – March 21, 2011—ARAMARK, the authorized concessioner in Shenandoah National Park, is celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the park with a series of events and promotions at [Skyland Resort](#) and [Big Meadows Lodge](#).

“Skyland Resort pre-dates the creation of the national park and Big Meadows Lodge and Lewis Mountain Cabins were built soon after the park was dedicated,” says Martha Bogle, superintendent for Shenandoah National Park. “They are an important part of the park’s history and offer a variety of accommodations for visitors looking to overnight in Shenandoah.”

“ARAMARK is celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary with events that honor the park’s history, the region and the people who helped preserve the land,” says Wayne Soard, district manager for ARAMARK Parks and Destinations.

The opening of Skyland Resort on March 31 starts the season with a series of events and entertainment, including wine tastings and guided hikes. Lewis Mountain Cabins open on April 8 and Big Meadows Lodge on May 19. Dates, times and more information can be found on the [event page](#).

Entrance to the park will be free on June 25 when the National Park Service rededicates Shenandoah National Park with a ceremony in the big meadows area – the site where Franklin D. Roosevelt declared Shenandoah a national park. Other fee-free days at Shenandoah National Park are April 16-24, June 21, Sept. 24 and Nov. 11-13.

Visitors looking to take advantage of this historic time in Shenandoah will benefit from the special promotions being offered at the lodges, including the popular [Shenandoah Sensational 75<sup>th</sup> Package](#). Guests who book two nights with the package will receive the third night free and a \$75 food voucher.

For more information about Shenandoah accommodations, packages, dining special events or to book a reservation call 800-778-2872 or visit [www.visitshenandoah.com](http://www.visitshenandoah.com).

## **About Shenandoah National Park**

Shenandoah National Park in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia contains nearly 197,000 acres of land with over 500 miles of trails, including 101 miles of the Appalachian Trail. Shenandoah draws up to 1.2 million visitors a year with its rich history, unique geography and wildlife, as well as the panoramic vistas from the Skyline Drive. This National Scenic Byway, built during the Depression era, winds along the crest of the mountains through the length of the park, providing vistas of the sweeping landscape to the east and west.

**About ARAMARK Parks and Destinations**

ARAMARK Parks and Destinations, a division of ARAMARK, delivers authentic and memorable experiences at national and state parks, national forests, specialty hotels, museums, and other tourist destinations throughout the United States. In partnership with its clients, ARAMARK Parks and Destinations seeks to enhance the guest experience by offering industry-leading hospitality, environmental stewardship, recreational, and interpretive programs. For more information on ARAMARK Parks and Destinations and each of its properties, visit [www.aramarkparksanddestinations.com](http://www.aramarkparksanddestinations.com).

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