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News & Information

Summit Wine & Food Festival - The Place to Be this July!

By Summit Wine & Food Festival

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The first annual Summit Wine & Food Festival will take place July 24, 25, and 26 at The Grand Summit Hotel in downtown Summit. It will showcase the talents of many of the most respected and highly regarded chefs, wineries and sommeliers today.

This three-day gathering will bring together the nation's culinary personalities from broad and diverse backgrounds to share their insights, skills, knowledge and passion for great cuisine and fine wines. The event promises to be the best celebration of the epicurean and culinary arts on the East Coast, featuring cooking demonstrations, gala wine tastings, seminars, food and wine pairing dinners prepared by some of America's most creative chefs, and cookbook signings. Featured will be some of the most sought-after wines on the market today. The weekend will be a gourmet's and oenophile's delight!

It opens on Friday evening with a special reception at which 15 world-renowned chefs will prepare their signature dishes accompanied with wines from more than 15 leading wineries. Guests can hob-knob with their favorite chefs as they wander through the Grand Ballroom sampling the delicious morsels.

During the day on Saturday and Sunday, professionals like Food Network personality Ingrid Hoffman will light up the stage with her "Simply Delicioso" style of cooking. Also stirring the pot will be 3-star Nuevo Latino chef Douglas Rodriguez, seafood masters Rick Moonen and Dave Pasternack of Esca, David Burke of Fishtail, and French chef David Waltuck of Chanterelle. The chefs will lead interactive Cooking Demonstrations.

Also on Saturday, guests can attend a Rising Stars Wine Tasting, a Sake Tasting with Paul Tanguay, and a Vertical Wine Tasting with Master Sommelier Roger Dagorn. On Saturday afternoon and evening, a memorable 5-course lunch and 6-course dinner will be served in the hotel's Grand Ballroom, the delicious fare paired with fine wines.

The Wine List of Summit, another sponsor of the Summit Food and Wine Festival, will host two book signings on Saturday afternoon at their unique wine shop, just three blocks from the hotel, at 417 Springfield Avenue in downtown Summit. One will feature Ingrid Hoffman autographing her best-selling cookbook "Simply Delicioso."

Sunday will see another full day of wine and food tastings with chefs and sommeliers, seminars, cooking demos, a luncheon featuring sumptuous dishes paired with fine wines, another book signing at The Wine List of Summit, and The First Feedbag Burger Summit showdown featuring many of the best chefs in the country. The Feedbag will allow everyone to let loose when culinary journalist Josh

Ozersky of Citysearch's The Feedbag hosts the showdown, as Le Bernardin's Eric Ripert, Joey Campanero of Little Owls, Michael Psalakis of Anthos, BLT Burger's Laurent Tourondel, "Top Chef" winner Harold Dieterle of Perilla, and Mark Bucher of Bgr Joint in Washington, among others, create their specialties on outdoor grills at the hotel.

Also on board for the weekend are top New Jersey chefs James Laird of Restaurant Serenade in Chatham, David Drake of Restaurant David Drake in Rahway, and pastry chef Timothy Horst. Guillermo Pernot of Cuba Libre in Philadelphia, cheese expert Max McCalman, and other master sommeliers will lend their expertise to the event.

The Summit Wine and Food Festival is being put together by sommelier Ivan Ruiz, owner of The Wine List of Summit. Tickets for the festival can be purchased by calling 908-277-6565 or you can visit www.summitwineandfood.com for complete information on all events.

Tickets may be purchased for individual events, by the day, or for the entire weekend. For additional information, email to info@summitwineandfood.com

A portion of the festival proceeds will benefit several area non-profit organizations including SAGE Eldercare, the American Red Cross, the Overlook Hospital Foundation, Susan G. Komen for the Cure®, BRIDGES Outreach, and the Junior League.



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