

Media Release

The Hon Martin Pakula MP

Minister for Industry Support and Recovery

Minister for Trade

Minister for Business Precincts

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Racing



Monday, 14 February 2022

FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL WELL SEASONED FOR MILESTONE YEAR

Foodies will be treated to a special appearance from culinary superstar Nigella Lawson at this year's Melbourne Food and Wine Festival from 25 March to 9 April 2022, thanks to support from the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Martin Pakula today joined Food and Drink Victoria to launch the 2022 program, as the festival marks its 30th anniversary.

The festival will make Queen Victoria Market its home for three weeks of special events, a retail pop-up, workshops and free demonstrations featuring some of Victoria's finest culinary talent.

The Labor Government has been a long-time supporter of the festival. It honours our thriving hospitality sector and promotes Melbourne as one of the best dining destinations in the world.

The festival begins when the World's Longest Lunch returns to Treasury Gardens on Friday 25 March, led this year by globally renowned chef, Ben Shewry of Attica.

The World's Longest Brunch will take place on Saturday 26 March with a Middle Eastern menu prepared by Shane Delia (Maha), Kirsty Chiapias (Babajan) and Joseph Abboud (Rumi).

The 2022 program also includes a family-friendly pasta fair, and a rock 'n' roll celebration of plant-based eating and drinking, a gathering of city's best snacks, and an ode to the humble chip in all its forms.

The Signature Chef series brings talented chefs from around Australia and overseas to collaborate with restaurants across the city for uniquely Melbourne dining experiences.

In addition to the March program, Melbourne Food and Wine Festival will spread the 30th anniversary celebrations throughout the year with a special event in winter and a regional program in November.

The festival provides strong support to our local food scene with more than 200 Victorian hospitality businesses involved. Importantly, the festival attracts thousands of visitors into our city and neighbourhoods to experience the culinary delights on offer.

Tickets go on sale on Thursday 17 February at melbournefoodandwine.com.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Martin Pakula

"We're proud to support the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival as it celebrates thirty years of hosting Australia's most renowned foodie event."

"Melbourne is famous for its culinary scene and we support the festival because it brings people into our city to taste the best of what's on offer – and that means more jobs in our local hospitality industry."

Quotes attributable to CEO Food and Drink Victoria Anthea Loucas-Bosha

"We are thrilled to be back in 2022 and to welcome UK superstar Nigella Lawson to Melbourne as part of the Festival's 30th anniversary celebrations."

"I'm super proud of this program which highlights the extraordinary food and drink experiences that make Melbourne so special."

Media contact: Anthony Templeton 0475 256 383 | anthony.templeton@minstaff.vic.gov.au