## Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP
Minister for Environment
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events
Minister for Outdoor Recreation



Monday, 18 December 2023

## MELBOURNE FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL 2024 PROGRAM PLATED UP

More Victorians and visitors will get a taste of Melbourne's vibrant food and drink culture at the 2024 Melbourne Food and Wine Festival, with a 10-day program celebrating the diversity of local produce and culinary talent, thanks to the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos announced next year's program will run from 15 to 24 March and feature more than 300 events for everybody to enjoy.

The 2024 festival will kick off with the return of fan favourites – the World's Longest Lunch on Friday 15 March and the World's Longest Brunch on Saturday 16 March – both to be held at Kings Domain for the first time.

Chef and owner of iconic venues including Gimlet, Cutler and Co, and Supernormal, Andrew McConnell will headline the World's Longest Lunch serving up three courses to diners seated at more than 600 metres of tables winding through the Kings Domain gardens.

The World's Longest Brunch will feature new-wave Indian food champions, Harry Mangat (Biji Dining), Helly Raichura (Enter Via Laundry) and Mischa Tropp (Toddy Shop). Together, these two events are expected to attract 3,600 diners.

The festival will bring some of the most exciting food talent from around Australia and overseas to Melbourne for one-off dinners, collaborations, and residencies in the Global Dining Series, attracting locals and visitors to flock to the city for these epic events.

Fed Square will feature a celebration of Melbourne's finest bakers and pâtissiers, a celeb-inspired sausage sizzle, a woodfired pizza pop-up, and an all-day diner running for the duration of the festival.

Other program highlights include the progressive dining series, Westside Wanders across Werribee, Footscray, Ascot Vale and Sunshine, and the Special Events Program which will be announced early next year.

The Labor Government's support through Visit Victoria drives interstate, intrastate and international food lovers to Melbourne while showcasing the city's unique food and drink scene and talented operators.

Program information is available at mfwf.com.au.

## Quotes attributable to Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos

"Dining out in Melbourne is a memorable and world-class experience and the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival offers ten days of exciting events that showcase Victoria's finest produce and culinary talent."

"We're proud to support this long-running celebration of Melbourne's food and drink scene and look forward to welcoming food lovers from near and far again in 2024, providing a boost to local businesses and jobs."

## Quote attributable to Food and Drink Victoria CEO Anthea Loucas Bosha

"We're thrilled to be back in 2024 with a truly special program. Melbourne is always one of the most dynamic places to eat and drink, and for 10 days in March Melbourne will be the world's eating and drinking capital."

Media contact: Bodil Droga 0413 701 929 | Bodil.Droga@minstaff.vic.gov.au