

Media Release

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



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MELBOURNE FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL SPICING UP THE CITY

More than 200 extra events are set to spark flavour palettes across Melbourne in this year's Melbourne Food & Wine Festival, with the blockbuster program showcasing Victoria's vibrant hospitality, agriculture and cultural talent.

The festival will bring some of the world's best chefs to Melbourne and showcase the incredible depth of Melbourne's food scene from 15 to 24 March, backed by the Allan Labor Government.

The 2024 program now includes a celebration of Persian new year – Nowruz – at Free to Feed, a chance to revisit the joy of the 1990s pizza buffet when Magma hosts its Pizza Buffet Revival Spectacular, and the opportunity to enjoy the unique cuisine of Malta at a one-off dinner hosted at Nomad.

The festival will broaden people's creative horizons with a pairing of wine and dance in Perfect Pairing, and an exploration of the future of food hosted by the Science Gallery at the University of Melbourne in Art Meat Flesh.

These events join a raft of special events unveiled today alongside festival favourites such as the World's Longest Lunch, led by Andrew McConnell, and the World's Longest Brunch, which will serve up new-wave Indian food from Harry Mangat, Helly Raichura and Mischa Tropp.

Eat Drink Westside is also returning in 2024 and includes Westside Wanders, a series of moveable feasts where a MFWF host leads food lovers to three venues, stopping for a bite, a drink, or a snack at each.

The annual festival supports thousands of jobs across the state, backing local businesses and attracting visitors from near and far to enjoy the best of Victoria in the heart of Melbourne.

A recent independent study commissioned by Visit Victoria found the major events calendar contributed \$3.3 billion in value to the economy and generated more than 15,500 jobs for Victoria every year.

Tickets to the 2024 Melbourne Food and Wine Festival go on sale today for festival subscribers and Thursday, 1 February, to the general public.

For more information about the festival's full program, and to purchase tickets, visit mfwf.com.au.

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

"With more than 400 events over ten days, the 2024 Melbourne and Wine Festival has something for everyone and is set to attract visitors from near and far – boosting to local businesses and jobs."

"Victoria is the nation's food and wine capital and this year's festival will showcase and celebrate the people that bring these industries to life."

Quote attributable to Minister for Small Business Natalie Suleyman

"This festival shines a light on our diverse small business in Melbourne and celebrates all the producers, farmers and hospitality workers that bring our star-studded industry to life."

Quotes attributable to CEO of Food + Drink Victoria Anthea Loucas Bosha

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“I’m looking forward to joining you at Australia’s biggest and best festival of food and drink.”