

**Contact:**

Haley Messner

619-312-1212

[messner@fastforwardevents.com](mailto:messner@fastforwardevents.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FOODIES REJOICE! FALL TRAVEL HEATS UP WITH A DELICIOUS GETAWAY AT THE  
13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SAN DIEGO BAY WINE + FOOD FESTIVAL**

*VIP Ticket Packages Offer Admission To Select Events, Two-Night Hotel Stay, Tasting Experiences, And More!*

**San Diego, CA (September 26, 2016)** – The [San Diego Bay Wine + Food Festival](#)<sup>®</sup>, Southern California’s largest and most exciting food and wine celebration, held November 14-20, 2016 invites travelers and culinary enthusiasts to explore America’s Finest City with luxurious VIP vacation packages.

With incredible sights, sounds, and flavors, San Diego offers an exceptional warm weather getaway, and this November, the San Diego Bay Wine + Food Festival<sup>®</sup> dishes out four mouthwatering VIP travel packages that include tickets to a selection of the week’s signature events, as well as a two-night stay at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina (select packages only).

Now in its 13<sup>th</sup> year, the annual San Diego Bay Wine + Food Festival<sup>®</sup> showcases San Diego’s vibrant culinary community through cooking classes, chef dinners, and multiple tasting events, all held in locations throughout the city and in Baja. The action-packed week features over 40 wine, culinary, and expedition style events as well as the legendary Lexus Grand Tasting held on the picturesque San Diego Bay.

Fall foodie ticket packages vary and include admission to several wine and food festival events, including:

- **Fish Taco TKO Hosted by Rick Moonen** – The Fish Taco TKO is back for its fifth annual competition to settle the score on who is making the best fish taco. At this year’s taco showdown, the city’s best fish taco makers are dished an extra challenge; their taco must use sustainable fish. Fish Taco TKO features unique beer and tequila stations and two prize categories – People and Critics’ Choice. *Quartyard | Tuesday, November 15*
- **Dinner with the Culinary Icons + Live Auction Presented by Lexus**– A star-studded evening with epic culinary talent of (g)astronomical proportions. This once in a lifetime dining experience features Chefs: Marcus Samuelsson, Rick Bayless, Michelle Bernstein, Rick Moonen, Javier Plascencia, Bernard Guillas, Thomas Raquel, and Aron Schwartz. *Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina, San Diego Ballroom | Thursday, November 17 | \$300 per person*
- **The Trade Tasting at SommCon<sup>®</sup> and Select Classes<sup>®</sup>**: A leading conference and exposition for wine, beer and spirit industry professionals and serious enthusiasts,

- **SommCon®** features over 40 educational sessions led by Master Sommeliers, Masters of Wine and an all star collection of the industry's finest pros. Select from a variety of tastings, seminars and panel discussions as well the Trade Tasting at SommCon®, where wine enthusiasts taste from over 100 exhibiting wine, spirit and beer producers. *Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina | Thursday, November 17 – Friday, November 18*
- **Lexus Grand Tasting Featuring the NEW Culinary Theater and VIP Experience** – The largest wine and food festival in Southern California takes center stage on the scenic San Diego Bay with over 700 wines, 60 of San Diego's top chefs, and over 30 gourmet food companies. The VIP Tent has never tasted so good as celebrity chefs Cosmo Gross and Erling Wu-Bower team up with local superstar Jason McLeod, Giselle Wellman, and Tim Kolanko to host this year's NEW VIP Tent experience. Also NEW this year, join today's hottest chefs for demonstrations at the Culinary Theater, including: the Hearty Boys, Javier Plascencia, Cosmo Gross, Erling Wu-Bower, Thomas Raquel, and Rick Bayless. *Embarcadero Marina Park North | Saturday, November 19*
- **Party After Dark Presented by Stella Artois** - The fun doesn't have to end, continue the foodie celebration at Pacific Standard with eats, drinks and beats dished out by former Bravo "Top Chef" competitor, Giselle Wellman. *Pacific Standard | Saturday, November 19*
- **Pizzapalooza Featuring Battle of the Bartenders** – From deep dish, New York, Neapolitan, Sicilian, grilled, Detroit, etc., people are passionate about their pizza. Take in multiple tasting stations from San Diego's top pizza makers, hit up incredible mixology and craft cocktail stations, and vote during the Battle of the Bartender competition, Pizzapalooza also features the Gelato World Tour. *Location TBD | Sunday, November 20*

Four packages are available to choose from:

- [Grand Cru Pass For One](#) – SAVE \$65  
Package is priced at \$590 and includes:
  - 1 Ticket to your choice of Fish Taco TKO or Pizzapalooza (\$55 value)
  - 3 Wine or Culinary Classes of your choice (\$165 value)
  - 1 Ticket to The Trade Tasting at SommCon®: The Vault Access (\$125 value)
  - 1 VIP Ticket to the Lexus Grand Tasting (\$225 value)
  - 1 Ticket to Party After Dark Presented by Stella Artois (\$85 value)
- [Premier Cru Pass For One](#) – SAVE \$50  
Package is priced at \$400 and includes:
  - 1 Ticket to your choice of Fish Taco TKO or Pizzapalooza (\$55 value)
  - 2 Wine or Culinary Classes of your choice (\$110 value)
  - 1 Ticket to The Trade Tasting at SommCon® (\$65 value)
  - 1 General Admission Ticket to the Lexus Grand Tasting (\$135 value)
  - 1 Ticket to Party After Dark Presented by Stella Artois (\$85 value)
- [Grape Escape Getaway Package For Two](#) – SAVE \$100

Package is priced at \$1,335 and includes:

- 2 Tickets to the Trade Tasting at SommCon® (\$130 value)
- 2 Tickets to Bounty of San Diego dinner (\$450 value)
- 2 General Admission Tickets to the Lexus Grand Tasting (\$270 value)
- 2 Tickets to Party After Dark Presented by Stella Artois (\$170 value)
- 2-Night Stay at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina (Over \$400 value)

- [Ultimate Wine Weekend Getaway Package For Two](#) – SAVE \$170

Package is priced at \$1,935 and includes:

- 2 Tickets to Dinner With The Culinary Masters + Live Auction Presented by Lexus (\$600 value)
- 4 Wine or Culinary Classes of your choice (\$220 value)
- 2 Tickets to the Trade Tasting at SommCon®: The Vault Access (\$250 value)
- 2 VIP Tickets to the Lexus Grand Tasting (\$450 value)
- 2 VIP Lanyards for early event access and VIP Tent access at the Lexus Grand Tasting
- 2 Tickets to Party After Dark Presented by Stella Artois (\$170 value)
- 2-Night Stay at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina (Over \$400 value)

To take advantage of VIP ticket packages, call 619-312-1212 and reserve your tickets. For packages that include a two-night hotel stay at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina, call 877-385-9595 to reserve your lodging.

For a complete schedule of events or to purchase tickets for the San Diego Bay Wine + Food Festival individually, visit [www.sandiegowineclassic.com](http://www.sandiegowineclassic.com).

### **SAN DIEGO BAY WINE + FOOD FESTIVAL®**

The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual San Diego Bay Wine + Food Festival® is an international showcase of the world's premier wine and spirits producers, chefs and culinary personalities, and gourmet foods. Held November 14-20, 2016 the event benefits culinary arts and enology scholarships awarded by Fast Forward Futures and the Chaîne des Rôtisseurs. Over 200 wineries, breweries, and spirit companies and 60 of San Diego's top fine-dining restaurants will participate in the 2016 Festival. For more information visit [www.sandiegowineclassic.com](http://www.sandiegowineclassic.com). Produced by World of Wine Events and Fast Forward. For more information call 619-312-1212.

###