

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Attention: News Editor

### **Feast of events**

Fine dining is in focus across the region as Taste Great Southern unveils its 2012 program of food and wine events.

Royalties for Regions funding of \$25,000 through the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) supports the program of events coordinated by Great Southern Tourism Events, part of Denmark Tourism.

Degustation menus with matched wines, seasonal foods, international cuisine, street events and long table meals are among the delights ahead for Great Southern residents and visitors.

Details of the 2012 program are on the Taste Great Southern website at [www.greatsoutherntastewa.com](http://www.greatsoutherntastewa.com) and the program will be officially launched in Perth on Friday 17 February by Tourism Minister Kim Hames.

Printed programs are now available at visitor centres and Taste venues, and late additions to the line-up will be posted on the Taste website.

In 2012, Taste Great Southern celebrates the Year of the Farmer and the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of cool climate riesling in the Great Southern.

Special guests include Must Winebar co-owner Russell Blaikie, Iron Chef contestant Herb Faust, celebrity butcher Vince Garreffa and highly regarded chefs and food personalities.

February's Taste program focuses on shows at the Albany Entertainment Centre in the Perth International Arts Festival Great Southern program, presenting a series of pre-performance set menus matched with wine at the View Restaurant.

Called Meet Your Maker, each set meal features wine from an individual winery, including Poachers Ridge, Trevelen Farm, Dukes and Oranje Tractor, and one features Little Creatures brewery.

Taste Great Southern hits its stride in March on the Labour Day weekend with a big range of events that run to the end of April.

On Friday 2 March, part of Denmark's Strickland Street will close for a long table fiesta featuring food vendors and wine producers along with street theatre and musical performances as part of Brave New Works #19.



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GSDC Chief Executive Officer Bruce Manning said the Taste Great Southern program was a wonderful showcase for the region's produce.

"Dedicated and talented people grow and manufacture high quality food and wine in the Great Southern," Mr Manning said.

"Taste Great Southern celebrates their achievements and promotes their industry beyond the boundaries of the region.

"We are entering the season Noongar people call Bunuru, which is the finest time of year to visit the Great Southern, and the Taste program is a powerful enticement for visitors to make the journey south," Mr Manning said.

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