

Key West Food and Wine Festival to Celebrate Argentina Jan. 25-29

KEY WEST, Florida Keys — Fans of fine food and vino can indulge their appetites for both at the 14th annual Key West Food and Wine Festival. The experientia is scheduled Wednesday through Sunday, Jan. 25-29, with many events held outdoors to take advantage of Key West's typically balmy winter weather.

Attendees can expect gourmet galas and tastings, art and wine experiences, wine dinners, seminars and activities that spotlight the Florida Keys' culinary scene and talented chefs.

The event's enticing "Primer Curso" is the welcome reception planned for 4-7pm. Wednesday, Jan. 25, starting at Ocean Sotheby's International Realty at 1075 Duval St. Celebrating Carnival de Buenos Aires, the reception includes the first Gaucho parade strolling to Viva Argentinian Steakhouse for wine, music and dancing.

Thursday's attractions include an "Authentic Empanada Making" lunch experience presented by Frita's owner, Marcia Weaver making her Argentinian Empanadas along with her homemade churros. Siesta is mandatory each day, today we rest from 3pm - 6pm. Next up the Piattelli wine diner featuring high altitude wines from Cafayette, is sure to please with Elizabeth Schweitzer MS presenting the wine under the Banyan tree in a hidden garden location.

Attendees Friday can savor the "Choripan & chimichurri" lunch, Argentina's street food, learn the history and sip on sparkling Mendoza wines.

"Ode to Francis Mallmann Wine Dinner" featuring Asado Parrillas, wine made under the direction of Francis himself. A multi-course dinner of artfully prepared regional specialties. Beginning at 4:30 - 8:30pm at Lost Beach, food historian and storyteller Francesca DeFranchis and the culinary mastery of Chef Martin Liz will be on hand.

The festival's highlight event, SLaM Grand Tasting, is set for 5-7pm. Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Key West Lighthouse & Keeper's Quarters 938 Whitehead Street. The open-air soiree blends Argentinian wines from Salta to Patagonia, the back drop of the 1848 lighthouse will be stunning, casually elegant "light bites" from Small Chef at Large and music.

Festivities are to conclude Sunday with "Last Tango in Cayo Hueso" Brunch at Kaya Island Eats featuring Tango dancers and more delicious wine, located at 628 Duval Street.

The Festival is proud to have been named twice as the Best Food & Wine Fest 2022 in the USA, from *LUXlife*, a division of *AI Global Media* & USA Today top 10 readers choice awards.

Festival information and ticketing: keywestfoodandwinefestival.com or 1-800-474-4319
Key West visitor information: fla-keys.com/keywest