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**Austin Food + Wine Festival Returns November 5-7, 2021**

*Tenth Annual Festival Announces Schedule & Programming*

Austin, TX (September 1, 2021) – Tickets are on sale now for the tenth annual **Austin Food + Wine**, **November 5-7, 2021;** [**www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets**](http://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets). Presented by **FOOD & WINE Magazine** and **C3 Presents**, Austin Food + Wine Festival is proud to be the benefactor of the **Austin Food & Wine Alliance,** a non-profit dedicated to fostering awareness and innovation in the Central Texas food and wine community through grants, educational programming and events. To date, Austin Food + Wine Festival has contributed over $1.1 million to the Alliance.

The tenth annual Festival will feature chefs, restaurants and wine & spirits experts over three days at Auditorium Shores and the newly refurbished Republic Square Park. Festival highlights include the return of Friday night’s **Grillin’ and Chillin’** hands-on, interactive dinner party hosted by chef **Tim Love;** fan favorite **Rock Your Taco** competition on Saturday night featuring several first-time competitors and James Beard Foundation Award nominees and winners; engaging **cooking demonstrations + conversations**;pitmasters and chefs cooking over interactive **Fire Pits**; samples of signature dishes from local **chefs and restaurants**; dynamic **wine, beer & cocktail tastings**; **live music**; **book signings**; and much more.

“The Austin Food + Wine Festival has always been such an incredibly fun and delicious experience,” says Uchi chef/owner **Tyson Cole**. “We are thrilled to be back and ready to Rock your Taco again!”

**Grillin’ and Chillin’**, Tim Love’s ultimate hands-on grilling dinner party hosted at Auditorium Shores, kicks off the Festival on Friday, November 5. This interactive party offers All-In ticket holders the opportunity to sharpen their skills as they join chef Love for a fun and informative evening of hands-on grilling, drinks and dinner, all underneath the Austin skyline.  Grillin’ and Chillin’ attendees will share a charcoal grill with a partner and prepare their own dinner as chef Love guides them through the menu while offering tips for how to become a grilling expert. Grillin' and Chillin' is exclusively included with the All-In ticket and will be the only time that the hands-on grilling demo will be offered throughout the weekend.

On Saturday, November 6 and Sunday, November 7, the Festival grounds will come alive with cooking demonstrations, book signings and an interactive area where chefs and pitmasters will cook over live **Fire Pits** and offer tastes to attendees throughout the weekend. The Fire Pits will showcase live fire cooking expertise from **John Bates** (InterStellar BBQ); **Sonya Coté** (Hillside Farmacy, Store House Market + Eatery); **Lance Kirkpatrick** (Stiles Switch BBQ); **Tom Micklethwait & Ren Garcia** (Micklethwait Craft Meats); **Marco Oglesby** (The Switch); and more pitmasters and chefs to be announced.

Showcasing a dynamic roster of chefs and restaurants throughout the weekend, attendees can sample signature dishes from some of Austin’s most beloved spots, including: **Christopher Andrews** (TLC); **Jeff** **Balfour** (Southerleigh Fine Food & Brewery); **Daniel Brooks** (Licha’s Cantina); **Jeff Brown** (Old Thousand); **Jo Chan** (Eberly); **Krystal Craig & Ian Thurwachter** (Intero); **Nick Ervan** (Wax Myrtle); **Jacob Euler** (Le Vacher); **Reed** **Faitak** (Austin Daily Press); **James Flowers** (1417); **Rachelle Fox** (Wicky's Walkup); **John Gocong** (Salty Cargo); **Mark Grimes** (CreekHouse); **Wade Guice** (Juliet Italian Kitchen); **Victor Ibarra** (Andiamo); **CJ Jacobson** (Aba); **Andrea Juarez** (Walton's Fancy & Staple); **Andy Knudson** (Tillies); **Geronimo Lopez** (BOTIKA); **Jason McVearry** (Poke-Poke); **Margarita & Nestor Mendez** (Pueblo Viejo); **Josh Neises** (Lonesome Dove Austin); **Daniel Olivella** (Barlata Tapas Bar); **Matthew Perez** (The Beer Plant); **Chris** **Rios** (The Vegan Nom); **Ryan Samson** (Vespaio & Enoteca); **Jam Sanitchat** (Thai Fresh); **Carmen Valera** (Tamale House East); **Ling Wu** (Lin Asian Bar + Dim Sum) and more chefs and restaurants to be announced.

Festival attendees keen on learning from the pros can listen in as a host of chefs and authors, including **Dawn** **Burrell** (Late August, Houston); **Helene Henderson** (Malibu Farm); **Fermín Núñez** (Suerte); **Yoshi Okai** (Otoko); and **Jam Sanitchat** share their tricks, tips and favorite recipes during **Cooking Demos** and **conversations**. A roster of sommeliers, wine, beer & spirits experts to be announced will help round out the Austin Food + Wine Festival line-up.

**Rock Your Taco,** Saturday evening’s signature tastingevent, returns to a newly renovated Republic Square Park. Chefs will square off against one another to create the ultimate taco, as deemed by a People’s Choice award. Rock Your Taco competitors include: **Tatsu Aikawa** (Ramen Tatsu-Ya); **Nicola Blaque** (Mi Roti, The Jerk Shack, San Antonio); **Dawn** **Burrell**; **Tyson Cole** (Uchi); **Diego Galicia & Rico Torres** (Mixtli, San Antonio); **Sarah Heard & Nathan Lemley** (Foreign & Domestic); **Helene Henderson**; **LeAnn Mueller** (la Barbecue); **Ryan Pera** (Eight Row Flint, Houston); **Jam Sanitchat**; **Charles Schlienger** (Sway); and more chefs and restaurants to be announced.

Additional programming announcements will be made over the course of the fall; please visit [www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com](http://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com) for more information and updates.

Detailed health and entry policies will be released closer to the event. Please visit [www.vaccinefinder.org](http://www.vaccinefinder.org/" \t "_blank) for questions about the COVID-19 vaccines or resources to find a vaccination location.

Tickets for the 2021 Austin Food + Wine Festival go on sale Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. CT at [www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets](http://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets).

All-In ($625/per person)

The *All-In* ticket includes Saturday and Sunday Festival access; interactive cooking demos & book signings; hands-on beer, wine and cocktail tasting sessions; wood-fired culinary creations from the Fire Pits; tastes from Austin’s best chefs & restaurants; Friday night’s Grillin’ and Chillin’ with Tim Love; Saturday night’s signature *Rock Your Taco* competition; and more.

Weekender ($250/per person)

The *Weekender* ticket includes Saturday and Sunday Festival access; interactive cooking demos & book signings; hands-on beer, wine and cocktail tasting sessions; wood-fired culinary creations from the Fire Pits; tastes from Austin’s best chefs & restaurants; and more.

Tickets can be purchased at [www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets](http://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/tickets). All attendees must be 21 years of age or older. For more information, please visit [www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com](http://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com), or follow us on Instagram [@austinfoodwine](https://www.instagram.com/austinfoodwine/?hl=en" \t "_blank), Twitter [@austinfoodwine](https://twitter.com/austinfoodwine" \t "_blank) and [Facebook.com/austinfoodwine](http://facebook.com/austinfoodwine" \t "_blank).

For press credentials, please find the online application here: <https://www.austinfoodandwinefestival.com/contact>

The Austin Food + Wine Festival is generously sponsored by Toyota, HEB, Republic National Distributing Company, Angry Orchard Hard Cider and FOOD & WINE.

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