

FESTIVAL FOCUS

CHARLOTTE WINE & FOOD WEEK

Charlotte, North Carolina
April 22-25

Charlotte Wine & Food Week is back for its thirty-second year of fundraising in the Queen City—net proceeds from the week's events go to Charlotte-area children's charities including GenOne, Mitchell's Fund, the Learning Collaborative, and the Relatives. In addition to a vintner dinner series and sommelier-led seminars, the schedule features a grand tasting with more than one hundred wines from around the world, plus samplings from area restaurants and breweries, live music, and a silent auction.

The week wraps up on Saturday at an event designed with wine connoisseurs in mind: the 1000-point dinner—a tasting of ten wines with perfect 100-point scores—moderated by *Wine Enthusiast's* Sommelier of the Year Laura Maniec-Fiorvanti, followed by an exclusive dinner.

charlottewineandfood.org

BEAUFORT WINE & FOOD WEEKEND

Beaufort, North Carolina
April 22-26

Chefs from around the world will head to North Carolina this spring for the ever-expanding Beaufort Wine & Food Weekend. The sixteenth iteration of this annual festival features five days of tastings, seminars, dinners, and live and silent auctions.

Explore the intricacies of California wines with a seminar comparing Sonoma and Napa bottles. If snacks are more your style, there's a seminar devoted to pairing wine with bread and cheese, hosted by a winemaker, cheesemonger, and guest baker. Be sure to grab tickets for one of the many wine dinners taking place throughout the weekend: Guest chefs are paired with some of the Crystal Coast's top restaurants for meals that showcase wines from around the world. The weekend of wining and dining culminates with Vin de Mer, an opportunity to sample hundreds of wines and bites.

beaufortwineandfood.org



SAVOR CHARLOTTE

Greenville, South Carolina
April 30

Charlotte chefs are headed south for an event in the heart of Greenville, South Carolina. Though just ninety miles apart, the two cities have both emerged as culinary hot spots in their own right, with impressive rosters of award-winning chefs and restaurants to their names. This April, the *Local Palate* is bringing them together: Guest chefs will pair up with host restaurants for unforgettable dinner experiences throughout the city.

thelocalpalate.com/events

DERBY DAY AT ÉLEVÉ

Charleston, South Carolina
May 2

The first Saturday in May is a hallowed occasion in the South, best spent with a frosty silver cup in hand. Join the *Local Palate* for a celebration of all things

Derby at the Grand Bohemian Hotel Charleston's rooftop restaurant, Élevé. The watch party features a julep bar and bourbon tastings, plus hors d'oeuvres from chef Lauren Vershon.

thelocalpalate.com/events

ATLANTA FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL

Atlanta, Georgia
May 28-31

Celebrating its tenth anniversary this year, the Atlanta Food & Wine Festival is a four-day experience that highlights the rich food and beverage traditions of the South. It kicks off with the *Local Palate's* Destination Delicious, a tasting event with bites and drinks from a swath of Southern states; this year's lineup spans the region from North Carolina barbecue master Sam Jones to Tampa restaurateur Ferrell Alvarez and acclaimed Arkansas chef Rob Nelson. The festival continues with educational seminars throughout the weekend, including panel discussions curated by the *TLP* staff.

atfoodandwinefestival.com