



NEWS RELEASE

30 April 2008

Early bird tickets launch Bristol's new Wine & Food Fair

Advance tickets for the first Bristol Wine and Food Fair go on sale from 1 May on the event's website www.bristolwineandfoodfair.co.uk. These early bird tickets cost just £5 per session or tickets can be purchased on the door for £7.

This new three day festival will offer enthusiasts the chance to sample, enjoy, learn and discover more about fine wine and good food bringing together top quality wines from around the world with the best in regional food and fine dining. Some 15,000+ people are expected to attend the Bristol Wine & Food Fair which runs from 11 – 13 July on Bristol's harbourside.

The event will provide a showcase for some of the most talented wine producers in the world giving visitors a rare opportunity to taste and buy superb wines not available in mainstream supermarkets. Serious wine connoisseurs and new comers alike can taste and enjoy hundreds of quality wines from all over the world and buy by the glass, bottle or case direct from the producers.

There will be the chance to learn from the experts in tutored wine and cheese tasting sessions and watch cooking in action in the chefs' theatre. Food lovers can sample signature dishes from some of the top local restaurants at a fraction of the cost, enjoy gourmet food and drink from selected artisan cheese and food producers or browse amongst the wide range of stalls in the food & drink market offering some of the best regional produce.

A superb selection of artisan cheeses will be on offer including award-winning cheeses from Trethowan's Dairy, Bath Soft Cheese, Cranborne Chase Cheese and Worthy Farm Cheddar. Visitors will be able to meet these expert producers and find out more about how their cheese is made and best enjoyed. These will be complemented by a mouth watering selection of other regional produce and speciality ingredients from charcuterie, pates, pies and organic meats to preserves, chocolates, puddings and farm ice creams all ready to be washed down with locally brewed beers, ciders and fruit liqueurs.

An impressive range of top quality wine companies have already signed up for the Fair. These include small independent wine growers such as Les Clos Perdus, Eric Martan and Domaine Treloar who produce excellent hand-crafted wines from their small estates in southern France to renowned wine growers collectives like La Maison Yvonnick Debray from Burgundy and Chateau Guillotin from Bordeaux and Lionel Laffitte from Loire Links.

These companies will be complemented by a number of specialist importers and distributors. Brown Brothers and Cono Sur import Australian and Chilean wine from their own vineyards in their native countries, whilst smaller companies such as Rare and Organic and Great Wines UK source and bring in wines from Italy and South Africa. There will also be specialists who focus on one wine producing area such as Jarvis of St James, who import fine champagnes direct from the Champagne region of France and GB Italia UK who import wines from the La Sarde family estate in Sicily.

Closer to home there will be a UK vineyard section showcasing the best of English wine, including Strawberryhill in Gloucestershire, Quoins Organic in Bradford on Avon, together with the promotion of established local wine merchants such as Averys, Bristol Wine Company and Corks of Cotham who have been responsible for elevating the quality of wine available in Bristol.

These fine wine companies will be joined by some of Bristol's most acclaimed local chefs and restaurants celebrating the city's diverse and exceptional culinary talent. Visitors will be able to sample signature dishes from six top local restaurants including Hotel du Vin, Thali Café, Bells Diner and Fishworks, whilst Barney Haughton from Bordeaux Quay will be hosting and presenting the chefs theatre.

This new event has its roots in Bristol's old Wine Fair, which ran at the exhibition centre throughout the 1970s and 1980s, but has a new look and format. Organisers Chris Scholes and Mike Cardwell wanted to recreate the best of the old event whilst updating it with some modern improvements: "Our event will differ from the old wine fair by combining quality wine and good food. Visitors will have the chance to taste and have fun, to discover what they like and perhaps try something new."

The Wine & Food Fair will be set against the wonderful backdrop of Bristol's historic harbour with live music on stage to add to the festival atmosphere. For further information on all the exhibitors, tasting sessions, participating restaurants and chefs theatre or to book advance tickets visit the event website www.bristolwineandfoodfair.co.uk.

Ends

NOTES TO EDITORS

Ticket information & Opening times:

Tickets £5 in advance, £7 on the door. Under 16s free - accompanied by an adult.

Public Sessions:

Friday 11 July	Day 12 noon – 4pm	Evening – 5.30 – 9.30pm
Saturday 12 July	Day 12 noon – 4pm	Evening 5.30 – 9.30pm
Sunday 13 July	Day 12 noon – 6pm	

For further information about the event please contact Bristol Event Management :

Chris Scholes Tel: 0117 966 3002 email: chris@bristoleventmanagement.co.uk or
Mike Cardwell Tel: 0117 971 5221 email mike@bristoleventmanagement.co.uk

For media enquiries please contact:

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There will be an event media launch with wine & cheese tasting on **Wednesday 14 May** from 5.30 – 7.30pm at Averys Wine Cellars, Culver Street (off Frogmore Street), Bristol. Please call Avril Baker if you are interested in attending.