

The Noosa Longweekend Festival a fine feast for foodies - June 18-27, 2010



Foodies will be licking their lips at **The Noosa Longweekend Festival**, the Sunshine Coast's favourite 10 day festival of theatre, music, literature, forums, dance, film, art and food to be staged from June 18-27. Food, glorious food will feature prominently as part of the total, 130 events that comprise the 2010 festival program.

Festival Director **Ian Mackellar** said that the festival was fast becoming recognised as a 'must-attend event' for food lovers.

This year, celebrity chef and owner of Sydney's **Billy Kwong** restaurant, **Kylie Kwong** will treat guests to a sneak peek of her new book, *It Tastes Better* over a two course luncheon at **Noosa Springs Country Club**.

Berardo's restaurant and bar will be the venue for celebrity lunches with one of Australia's leading ladies of show business, **Toni Lamond** and comedian and author, **Tim Ferguson**. Toni will be sharing candid stories of her life as a cabaret singer, actor, dancer, comedienne and author whilst Tim will keep audiences in stitches as he reveals how he has made people laugh for the past 25 years.

Ita Buttrose will arrive in 'Noosa style' via gondola along the Noosa River and then disembark to share the secrets of her stellar career over lunch at **Trios Restaurant**. Still on the water theme, sports hero **Andrew Ettingshausen (ET)** along with local, Sunshine Coast sporting identity '**Phippsy**' will have guests hooked with tales of their mutual love of fishing over breakfast at the **Noosa Yacht and Rowing Club**.

Duck cooked three ways, with a glass of wine to accompany each course will be presented to guests as they visit three of Noosa's most celebrated restaurants **Wasabi**, **Ricky's River Restaurant and Bar** and **Rock Salt @ Noosa** for the festival's now famous *Duck Waddle* progressive lunch event along with hosts **Danielle Gjestland**, **Pascal Turschwell** and **Stuart Webster**.

Seafood will be celebrated as part of the *Beachside Promenade* event at Hastings Street restaurants, **Rococo**, **Season** and **Bistro C** where a seafood dish and glass of wine will be served at each venue. Lunch will conclude with a stroll along Noosa's famous beachside boardwalk.

The *Hinterland Gourmet Safari* will have diners boarding a coach for a hinterland tour to **Blind Man Bluff's Vineyard** for wine tasting in Kenilworth and then to the Blackall Ranges for a four course degustation lunch (including wines) at the **Reserve Restaurant Cellar** followed by a tour of Eumundi's gourmet chocolate factory, **Cocoa Chocolat**.

Slow Food Noosa will host a *Festival Film and Food* event featuring a screening of Ang Lee's *Eat, Drink, Man, Woman* followed by gourmet Chinese meals prepared by **Daniel Mosedale** from **Blue Angel** restaurant, **Matt Golinski** from **Rolling Dolmade** catering and *Ready, Steady Cook* fame, **Belinda Tuckwell** from **Ma Mensa** and **Katrina Ryan** from Yandina's **The Spirit House**.

Jim Berardo and **Greg O'Brien** from Noosa's multi-award winning dining institution **berardo's restaurant and bar** will be in cabaret mode as they host a *Blue Ribbon dinner* featuring a four course dinner with performance by the incomparable **Caroline O'Connor**, along with three, festival *Supper Club* events, showcasing the superb talents of French chanteuse **Caroline Nin**, Australia's own cabaret sensation, **Carita Farrer** and Australian musical theatre legend, **Toni Lamond**.

The *Seafood Saunter* with succulent crab featuring on the menu at **Blue Angel**, **Sirocco** and **Riverhouse** sold out in 24 hours so be quick to secure your favourite foodie event!

All festival food events are priced **from \$75 - \$185** (for the four course Blue Ribbon dinner/performance event with Caroline O'Connor).

The full festival program can be viewed on line at **www.noosalongweekend.com**. Printed versions are available by phoning the festival office on (07) 5474 9941.

Some more 2010 festival highlights include –

- the world-premiere-preview of **David Williamson's** latest play *Rhinestone Rex and Miss Monica* starring **Georgie Parker** and the world premiere of the new children's play, *Hurry Up and Wait* as presented by the **Queensland Theatre Company** in association with deBASE productions; a showcase of 'award winning'-one-act plays; *Acrobatica's* gravity-defying physical theatre; and, *Agatha Christie Radio Mysteries* performed on stage.
- two, exclusive, Australian performances entitled *International Stars of Ballet* as performed by seven members of the **San Francisco Ballet**.
- musical performances including Australia's own **Tom Burlinson** in *Frank a Life in Song*; cabaret and supper club performances with **Caroline O'Connor, Caroline Nin, Carita Farrer, Blossom Goodchild, Elizabeth Cousemaker, Tom Sharah** and Australian musical theatre legend **Toni Lamond**; the *Dame Joan Sutherland (opera) awards*; a return festival appearance by guitar maestros **Slava and Leonard Grigoryan** accompanied by **James and Joseph Tawadros** as *Band of Brothers*; the *So-la Voce Chamber Choir*; a Japanese piano recital; **Virginia Gay**, and local bands, *The Vitals* and *Dva*.
- a celebration of short films and a *Slow Food with Film* event with food prepared by leading local chefs; the now famous progressive food events hosted by top restaurants in Noosa and the Sunshine Coast hinterland including a *Seafood Saunter, Hinterland Gourmet Safari, Beachside Promenade* and the traditional festival favourite, the *Duck Waddle*.
- literary events featuring everyone's favourite gardener **Don Burke, Ita Buttrose**, politician and pharmacist **Terry White**, social commentator **Karen Brooks**, high profile journalists and authors such as **Paul Kelly, Margaret Simons** and **Anne Summers** and sportswriter **Mike Colman**; the writers who inspired *Underbelly*, **John Silvester** and **Andrew Rule**; animal behavioural specialist **Dr Paul McGreevy**; author and former journalist **Iola Mathews**; former pop star and author **Michael White**; University lecturer and sci-fi buff, **Gregory Nash**; and, **Dr Karen Hitchcock** – medic and super mum.
- celebrity lunches featuring comedian and author **Tim Ferguson**, celebrity chef **Kylie Kwong, Ita Buttrose**, Australian cabaret sensation **Toni Lamond** and a celebrity breakfast with **Andrew Ettingshausen (ET)**.
- a full day children's festival.
- engaging and insightful forums exploring topics such as: *China, Should we be worried?; America, in decline?; The changing media game and internet journalism*; **Barrie Cassidy** and the *Insider's* take on politics, *Griffith REVIEW's Food chain sustainability* and *30 years of State of Origin*. Forum participants include **Julianne Schultz, Mark Scott, Eric Beecher, Margaret Simons, Dr Don Russell, Dr Michael Fullilove, Paul Kelly, Peter Hartcher, Peter Thompson, Warwick Smith, Geremie Barme, Saul Eslake, Fran Kelly, Steve Renouf, Kerrod Walters, Mick Hancock** and **Martin Lang**.
- workshops featuring Bollywood dancing, African drumming and singing, Japanese puppet making, drama improvisation, Commedia dell Arte and a full day, comedy writing master course with **Tim Ferguson**

TICKET SALES AND FESTIVAL PROGRAMS

- Tickets for all festival events are on sale now. Visit www.noosalongweekend.com for details.
- The full festival program can be viewed on line at www.noosalongweekend.com. Printed versions are available by phoning the festival office on (07) 5474 9941.
- Tickets for Noosa events are on sale at The J Box office phone (07) 5455 4455 or online at www.thej.com.au
- Tickets for Caloundra events are on sale at The Events Centre, Caloundra phone (07) 5491 4240 or online www.etixdirect.com.au
- Interested parties are encouraged to register to receive festival news, updates and special offers on The Noosa Longweekend Festival website - www.noosalongweekend.com
- Special festival accommodation packages are available. Visit www.noosalongweekend.com for details.

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For more information, images or interviews with The Noosa Longweekend Festival artists or staff contact:

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The Noosa Longweekend Festival is proudly presented by **MACQUARIE**

NB: Whilst all events listed as part of media communication are accurate at the time of release, The Noosa Longweekend Festival program is subject to change without notice due to circumstances outside of the event organizer's control.