

Sharing the Stories of Australia

Kiwi Travellers Craving A New Food Experience...

Kiwi travellers have a craving for new food experiences and destinations and Australia has just what it takes to satisfy their hunger. In this, the first in a series of Australian mini features we share what's hot and offer some inspiring new holiday offerings for you to make the most out of your Australian bookings – as well as giving your valued customers some great tips on how to have a truly gourmet holiday experience.

With a bounty of exceptional food and wine experiences to be enjoyed right around Australia, why not suggest to your gourmet travellers that they turn their holiday into an event by tailoring their travel plans around one of the many food and wine events that can be enjoyed around the regions.

Check out our mouth watering calendar of events – and that is just for starters! Right around Australia, new product offerings are being developed to sate the kiwi appetite for Australia. Here is just a sample of some deliciously new ideas for planning your clients next gourmet getaway.



Ultimately Sydney Gourmet Tours

Enhance any Sydney city stay with this four hour Gourmet Tour where guests experience tastings and discussions with fine food providores in Sydney's inner suburbs, including Walsh Bay, Pyrmont, Rozelle, Balmain, Leichhardt and Haberfield. From coffee to fresh bread, chocolate and ice cream, this tour showcases a diverse range of artisan foods and can be enjoyed without leaving town. The tour operates from 10.00am – 2.00pm, Tuesday to Saturday. www.ultimatelysydney.com.au



Make Mine Mildura....

Victoria's great foodie secret is out and is fast becoming a firm favourite with kiwis. With its Mediterranean-like climate, Mildura produces tasty treats such as pistachios, almonds and olives – as well as being an exceptional wine producing region. Visitors can enjoy a range of unique gourmet experiences, many of which can be sampled on the banks of the mighty Murray River. www.visitmelbourne.com/nz

A Taste Of Thailand On The Sunshine Coast

Spicers Retreats Hotels & Lodges have added an exotic taste of Thailand to the mix with the launch of Spicers Tamarind in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland. Having undergone an extensive refurbishment the new-look retreat welcomes its first guests on 2 August, 2010. Spicers Tamarind is where Thai style meets the tranquillity of the Australian bush and an excellent complement of fine food and wine is presented by an award winning chef who also invites guests to share his culinary secrets at regular cooking schools at The Tamarind.



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Kiwis Taste Test Mildura at Auckland Food Show – Stefano de Pieri

Kiwis got a taste of Mildura at the Food Show held in Auckland over the weekend, where Mildura culinary icon, Stefano de Pieri served up a slice of Mildura in Auckland.

The Venetian born celebrity chef is now one of Mildura's own, and locals in the region say that things haven't been the same since Stefano de Pieri walked

into town, and they'd be right. The axis of foodie pleasure centres around Mildura's Grand Hotel, which hosts New Spanish Bar & Grill and Seasons (which serves seasonal meals adhering to Slow Food principals), as well as Stefano's Restaurant, which has won two Chef's Hats in The Age Good Food Guide for each of the past four years.



Some of the tastes and sights to be enjoyed on the Barossa Butcher, Baker, Winemaker Trail. Outside Maggie Beer's Pheasant Farm shop, Barossa Valley wineries.

Barossa Butcher, Baker, Winemaker Trail

When it comes to truly distinctive regional cuisine, there really is no place quite like the Barossa for culinary excellence. A great way for your clients to experience this is to book them on the Barossa Butcher, Baker and Winemaker Trails. Just an

hour's drive from Adelaide, the tour is packed with value added goodies, and for just AU\$65.00 this could be the greatest food favour you do for your clients. For further info and touring routes see www.southaustralia.co.nz

Coastal Food Loving on the Margaret River

Gourmet food trails, world class wines and an exceptional arts and crafts community make Western Australia's Margaret River region an exceptional food and touring experience.

The sensational surf along this coastline also serves up fresh seafood which can be enjoyed at the boutique accommodation and restaurants dotted along the journey. A perfect fit for any self drive itinerary, the region lends itself to a romantic getaway or for the free wheeling traveler who wants to take in a unique



nature, food and wine experience along the way. From local farmgate produce to the numerous cellar doors open to visitors, the region serves up a veritable bounty of epicurean delights.



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Mark Olive's Outback Café

For Australian celebrity indigenous chef, Mark Olive – aka 'The Black Olive', Australia is the inspiration for his cuisine, which is an exotic blend of traditional herbs and meats created in a contemporary context



What I love most.....

What I love most about Australian food is the diversity and fresh produce that is now largely available. South Australia has amazing wines, and sustainable indigenous farms where indigenous growers produce bush tucker like kutjera, rivermint, passionberries and bush bananas throughout the Flinders Ranges - they are all growing in abundance. And food trails are on the rise; South Australia has the Limestone Coast as you come over the Victorian border, heading towards Adelaide. Produce like fresh olives, olive oils, jams, sauces, wines, and smoked meats are all being produced in this picturesque region. All in all we have amazing fresh produce, and a wealth of indigenous herbs and spices, all grown in such natural settings - great for local consumers, tourists and of course the chefs who love to cook, eat, and promote these wonders of Australia.

-Mark Olive

that excites and delights the senses.

Mark can be credited for taking indigenous cuisine from the outback and onto the world stage where his demonstrations and events have elevated the demand and interest in including indigenous cuisine as part of the great Australian experience.

Whilst Mark does not have a restaurant, he can be seen on television and does run the Black Olive catering company which produces high quality indigenous catering for groups as well as interactive cookery demonstrations and seminars at his superbly appointed show kitchen and meetings facility in Melbourne – aptly located just a short distance from the Queen Victoria markets.

www.blackolive.net.au

Take a Remarkable Journey in NSW... and Savour the Flavours

Hundreds of cellar doors, award-winning fresh produce, luxury getaways, stellar restaurants and fine wines from 14 very different regions: New South Wales is the gourmet State with the lot.

Wherever your client's NSW itinerary goes, you can be assured that nearby will be an impressive and diverse range of food and wine experiences to enjoy. With a wide range in temperatures and altitudes, the State is perfect for farming everything from finger limes to truffles, olive oil to mushrooms, cherries to coffee and macadamias to oysters.

While in the Hunter Valley, Mudgee and Orange are known internationally as fine wine regions, there are also discoveries to be made with vineyards stretching from New England in the north to Tumbarumba in the south and wine styles ranging from big reds to elegant



aromatic whites.

There's every chance – especially on self drive holidays that clients can stumble across an artisan cheese maker, or a family-run cellar door, offering tastings - experiences that will enhance any NSW itinerary.

From fabulous freshly-shucked Hawkesbury oysters to lunch overlooking Hunter Valley vines to dining in a bush camp, a journey through the state is certain to reveal a range of amazing taste sensations. Visitors will meet passionate producers, learn their secrets and take away fantastic memories.

Foodie Nirvana in Noosa...and Beyond



From the farm gates and wineries of the hinterland to the beach front eateries and bistros on Hastings Street, Queensland's Sunshine Coast is a haven for foodies.

One of Australia's premier resort destinations, Noosa offers a stylish location to tantalise the tastebuds with fresh local produce and sensational seafood.

Clients visiting this region will be surprised by what also lies beyond this stunning coastline and a short self drive journey into the hinterland will uncover the regions emerging wine industry and some delightful farm gate produce.

Share the secret with your clients and rediscover this popular region.

To make a real event of your Noosa holiday, check out the events guide on page 4 of this feature for details on the 2011 Noosa Food and Wine Festival.





Events, Festivals and Shows

Epicurean Events Line-up

Transforming your clients' holiday into an event is easy with most events available for bookings through your preferred wholesaler. Here is a sample of some of the great culinary events your clients can enjoy, along with 'must be there' dates for iconic Australian events.

Barossa Gourmet Weekend 21-22 Aug 2010

Barossa Valley, SA: Entertainment, fine food and wine are blended for the perfect weekend. www.southaustralia.com

Crave Sydney international Food Festival 01-31 Oct 2010

Sydney, New South Wales. Extraordinary food experiences in unique Sydney locations such as Breakfast on the Bridge and Night Noodle Markets. www.cravesydney.com

Hunter Semillon and Seafood Festival 08-10 Oct 2010

A celebration of this world renowned Semillon producing region with award winning wines topped off with the tangy taste sensations of fresh seafood. www.huntersemillonandseafood.com.au

Mildura Jazz, Food & Wine Festival 29 Oct-01 Nov 2010

A showcase of regional food and wine accompanied by round the clock jazz entertainment at street side and riverside venues. www.artsmildura.com.au

Burning of the Vine Cuttings 06 Nov 2010

A medieval tradition and part of the Margaret River Festival. A fun filled night including fireworks and local food. www.leeuwinestate.com.au

Taste Festival Tasmania 28 Dec 10 – 03 Jan 11

Experience Hobart's iconic waterfront celebration of food, music, arts and culture. www.tastefestival.com.au

Crush 2011 30 Jan 2011

Meander the many and varied venues in the Adelaide Hills to experience exceptional wine, fine food and great music. www.southaustralia.com

Melbourne Food and Wine Festival 04-14 Mar 2011

Melbourne turns up the heat with a sensational showcase of food and wine that permeates every nook, cranny and laneway of the city including the world's longest lunch on Friday March 4th. www.melbournefoodandwine.com.au

What's On Around Australia

Right around Australia you will find events, festivals and shows to suit every interest and add an exciting dimension to your Australian itinerary. Not only does Australia boast some of the world's most iconic events but also hosts an exceptional number of regional events and internationally acclaimed stage shows and concerts.

A sample of upcoming major events for the calendar and trip planner are below, but for a full selection of around 800 events and festivals click on to www.australia.com/events or contact your preferred wholesaler for travel packages.

Mary Poppins Opens 14 Jul 2010

Let your imagination take flight at Her Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne www.visitmelbourne.com

Wicked Extended to 26 Sep 2010

Experience the untold story of the witches of OZ in this fantasy musical at Sydney's Capitol Theatre. www.wickedthemusical.com.au

Hairspray Starting 02 Oct 2010

Set in the 60's this smash hit musical comes to Melbourne's Princess theatre for a season starting 02 October www.onlymelbourne.com.au

Bathurst 1000 Mt Panorama V8's 08-11 Oct 2010

Mt Panorama comes alive with one of Australia's most exciting motor-sport events. See the V8's in action over four action packed days. For event information, see www.v8supercars.com.au

Melbourne Cup Carnival 30 Oct-06 Nov 2010

The Melbourne Cup Carnival creates a party atmosphere unparalleled at any other Australian sporting event and is the worlds largest outdoor fashion event. For more details, see www.melbourncup.com

Canberra Balloon Fiesta 12-20 Mar 2011

Part of the Canberra Festival, spectators at the 2010 event were treated to a balloon spectacular of more than 30 balloons and over 40 pilots. www.events.act.gov.au/canberrafestival

Grand Prix Melbourne 24-27 Mar 2011

Albert Park, Melbourne. The elite event of motorsport. Get in on the glitz and glamour of this prestigious international event. www.grandprix.com.au

Cooly Classic Coolangatta – Ocean Swim 03 Apr 2011

Swim your way across three of Australia's most revered surf breaks; Snapper Rocks, Coolangatta and Kirra in this challenging 2.5km open water ocean swim. There is also a 500m short course, or the beach to watch from. www.australia.com/events

Noosa Food & Wine Festival 13-15 May 2011

A uniquely intimate celebration of leading chefs, winemakers, producers and media with great live concerts every day, something for everyone. www.noosafoodandwine.com.au

