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Elegant Winemaker Dinners and parties galore set the gourmet scene at Whistler's Cornucopia

WHISTLER, British Columbia: August 30, 2007 - Cornucopia's expanded program shakes things up this year with a new list of hot parties occurring every night and elegant winemaker dinners scheduled throughout the weekend. The changes come with Cornucopia's signature Crush! Gala Grand Tasting occurring over two nights this year - Friday, November 9 and Saturday, November 10. Ultimately, the result is more parties, more winemaker dinners and more opportunity to attend them all.

Kicking off this year's Cornucopia is the House Party on Thursday, November 8 - a lively evening of wine, DJ tunes, over 10 micro breweries and featuring a lip-smacking delicious barbeque for meat lovers presented by Park Heffelfinger and George Siu of Memphis Blues Barbeque House. Vegetarians beware!

Cornucopia's winemaker dinners are one-of-a-kind affairs where chefs from host restaurants work with either a specific vintner or unique collection of wines to prepare a fabulous multi-course menu with specially-paired wines. Often, the actual winemaker is in attendance, speaking to the qualities of each pairing and available to answer questions. Cornucopia's opening day also witnesses the first of several weekend winemaker dinners - this one hosted by Elements Urban Tapas Parlour with wines from Pentage Winery from the Okanagan.

Thursday's party scene continues with the ARTrageous Afterparty at The Brewhouse as the red hot soul of the famous Whistler arts scene bursts into festivity featuring a showcase of emerging and established artists, a full multi-media exhibit, live art performances and a hot funk band. Enjoy informal sampling of fine beer, wine and food and don't forget the dancing shoes. Presented by the Whistler Arts Council and High Mountain Brewing Company.

The series of post-Crush! Afterparties get started on Friday, November 9 at The Mountain Club,

10pm-2am, for the UltraLounge Opening Party featuring both live entertainment and DJ's, complementary drinks and passed canapés all evening.

Two Crush! Afterparties are on offer on Saturday, November 10. Araxi's Bubbles, Rhythm & Deep Sea features live performances by Doc Fingers & his band, along with Araxi's finest chilled seafood, oysters, sushi and a wide array of sparkling wines while the Hilton Whistler Resort & Spa brings the "The Big Easy" to Whistler with Arti Gras. This New Orleans-themed costume ball features authentic Cajun cuisine, live entertainment, body and face painting, and of course lots of dancing.

Saturday night winemaker dinner offerings include The Best of the Northwest at The Mountain Club and wines from DeLille Cellars at Fifty-Two 80 Bistro @ Four Seasons Resort Whistler.

The assortment of winemaker dinners on Sunday night will make the selection that much harder to choose from. Diners may opt for the intimate setting of Apres Restaurant paired with Albert Bichot wines; or culinary artistry of Executive Chef Jay Lynn at the Hilton Whistler Resort & Spa's Cinnamon Bear Bar & Grille paired with wines from Okanagan's See Ya Later Ranch. The Wine Room @ Fairmont Chateau Whistler will feature a specially-prepared menu by Fairmont Pacific Northwest's Executive Chefs along with wines from The Long Shadow Project while Ric's Grill tops off the evening with a dinner to remember with Quails Gate Winery.

Two- and three-night packages include a ticket to Cornucopia's famous Crush! Gala Grand Tasting and start at just \$189 per person* through 1.800.whistler. The first 300 people to purchase a three-night Cornucopia package with their Visa card will also receive a free Early Entry ticket to Crush!, a privilege that allows advance access to the open tasting room up to 45 minutes prior to regular ticket holders. For more information and to book, visit www.whistlercornucopia.com, www.whistler.com or call 1.800.whistler.

Detailed Cornucopia information including event schedules, participating wineries and restaurants, and an exciting list of celebrity chefs and wine and food presenters is available at www.whistlercornucopia.com, Cornucopia is a presentation of Tourism Whistler, the member-based marketing and sales organization representing Whistler and operating the TELUS Whistler Conference Centre, Whistler Golf Club, and www.whistler.com - the Official Site of Whistler.

Media accreditation will open in mid-August Whistler publication-ready photographs can be downloaded at <http://mediaroom.tourismwhistler.com/>

*Package prices are per person, based on double occupancy.

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