

The Western Insider

Restaurants • Travel • Special Events • News

Sail Away

LA DOLCE VITA
MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE

Mediterranean Sea
June 4 through 16
800-297-8505;
festivalsafloat.com

John Mariani, a food writer and contributor to *Wine Spectator* and *Esquire* magazines, hosts this 13-day food lover's trip through the Mediterranean on the Crystal Cruises luxury liner *Crystal Serenity*. At stops that also include Barcelona, St. Tropez, and Dubrovnik, Mariani takes guests to his favorite dining spots—from Alain Ducasse's three-star Le Louis XV in Monaco to a low-key bistro in Venice—and shares his knowledge about the best local wines. Back on the ship, guests can take a cooking class taught by Mariani's wife and cookbook co-author, Galina, from the couple's *The Italian-American Cookbook*. Prices start at \$5,780 per person and do not include airfare.

Pie Divine

PIZZA: A SLICE OF HEAVEN (\$25). Perhaps no food in America is more fiercely debated than pizza. Thin or thick crust? Wood-oven baked or grilled? Ed Levine, a frequent contribu-

tor to *The New York Times* and *Bon Appétit*, tackles the challenge with gusto in this engaging book on all things pizza. Levine elicits opinions from self-proclaimed experts like food writer Calvin Trillin and *Bon Appétit* special correspondent Alan Richman, plus Hollywood players like Nora Ephron and Edward Norton. The result? Witty essays, honest criticism, a pizza history, the ultimate recipe, and a worth-its-weight-in-buffalo-mozzarella listing of where to find the best pies.

Your Own Private Napa

THE WINE TUTOR
Napa Valley
707-738-5274; winetutor.com

One of the best behind-the-scenes tours in Napa Valley is led by John Thoreen, also known as The Wine Tutor. He takes wine lovers on two-day, completely customized jaunts to boutique wineries such as Cakebread Cellars and Stagecoach Vineyards. Tours include a daily picnic (with wine, of course) and transportation from vineyard to vineyard. Prices range from \$950 per day for a small group to \$1,250 for a large group.

—By Rachel I. Abramowitz,
Alessandra S. Brophy, Tory L. Davis,
and Andrew Knowlton

On the Calendar

May 12 through 15
**FOURTH ANNUAL BON APPÉTIT
SCOTTSDALE CELEBRITY CHEF
GOLF INVITATIONAL**
Scottsdale

888-383-8472; bonappetitgolf.com
Play alongside your favorite chefs—like Mario Batali, Todd English, or Bradley Ogden—as they step out of the kitchen and onto the golf course to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The four-day gathering also includes an art walk in gallery-filled Scottsdale, a gala dinner at the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort, cooking classes, and a grand tasting at the James Hotel. Golf tickets are \$500 per player; tickets for culinary events range from \$45 to \$150.

May 14 and 15
**DELAURENTI'S SEATTLE
CHEESE FESTIVAL**
Seattle
800-873-6685;
seattlecheesefestival.com
Seattle's famed specialty foods store, DeLaurenti's, hosts an homage to *fromage* at the Pike Place Market. Sample spunky chèvres, pungent blues, and genuine Italian pecorinos (plus other great artisanal cheeses) from local and international cheesemakers. Admission is free; seminars cost \$15 each.



Contact your travel specialist, visit www.MaunaKeaBeachHotel.com or 1-866-PRINCE-6

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