

YOUR GUIDE TO EVERYTHING LAS VEGAS

# lasvegas<sup>®</sup>

MAGAZINE + SHOWBIZ WEEKLY

MAY 5, 2013

**PBR:**  
**Last Cowboy Standing**

Eight Seconds to Glory

**The Rolling Stones**

This Could Be the Last Time

**Santana**

Nights With a Guitar Legend



# VEGAS UNCORK'D

RAO'S KEEPS A CULINARY EVENT IN THE FAMILY





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The Rolling Stones

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**Vegas Uncork'd**

Venues and times vary, May 9-12, \$110-\$225. 877.884.8993. For a complete schedule of events and to find out which tickets are still available, visit [vegasuncorked.com](http://vegasuncorked.com)



# WCA Grand WEEKEND

Las Vegas Strip's food and drink in the spotlight at **Vegas Uncork'd**



Photograph by  
Christopher DeVargas

Hair and makeup by  
Sarah Barker



Their names read like a who's who of the culinary world. Gordon Ramsay, Nobu Matsuhisa, Joël Robuchon, Guy Savoy and more will be on hand for Vegas Uncork'd by *Bon Appétit*, the four-day food and beverage extravaganza that takes over the Las Vegas Strip, May 9-12.

This is the seventh year for the festival that features 28 events at the Bellagio, Caesars Palace, Mandalay Bay and MGM Grand. It's a chance to get up close and personal with chefs, especially during the Master Series Dinners at Caesars Palace.

"We wait every year for this," says Nicole Grimes, the chef de cuisine at Rao's (pictured). "This is our time. We can be playful. Everybody in the room is somebody, and we wait all year to do this menu." The vaunted Italian restaurant at Caesars Palace has two dinners planned for Vegas Uncork'd—a Master Series Dinner with Pellegrino family favorites on Thursday, May 9, and a backyard barbecue featuring recipes from Frank Pellegrino Jr.'s (pictured) cookbook *Rao's on the Grill* on Sunday, May 12.

Grimes says only 50 to 60 lucky guests will experience the Master Series Dinner, a combination of family-style dishes and plated courses featuring dishes such as Caprese salad, roasted bone marrow, gnocchi with duck ragout and the Italian restaurant's famous meatballs.

For the second year, the barbecue takes guests out on the patio, serving dishes such as pasta linguine with a tuna sauce, chicken cacciatore, pork chops with hot cherry peppers and shrimp oreganatta. Even candy bar banana splits and grilled fruit kabobs make the menu.

Other favorites from Caesars Palace include Master Series Dinners with big names such as Bobby Flay, Michel Richard and Old Homestead Steakhouse as well as Ramsay with his new Gordon Ramsay Pub & Grill and Matsuhisa's recently unveiled Nobu Hotel.

Michael Mina unveils the menu for his highly anticipated Pub 1842 during a poolside tasting on Friday, May 10. Guests can also get a taste of dishes from Jean-Georges Vongerichten, Todd English, Julian Serrano and Akira Back in an event hosted by Mina during the Bellagio Block Party with its cured, smoked, braised, grilled and toasted treats on Saturday, May 11.

Aureole at Mandalay Bay serves up oysters galore on Saturday, May 11, while Hubert Keller and Laurent Pillard of Fleur at Mandalay Bay set up a beer garden with Nevada's first female certified cicerone Sarah Johnson on Saturday as well.

The Hand-Crafted Collaboration brings together the flavors of chef Rick Moonen and the libations of master mixologist Tony Abou-Ganim on Saturday, May 11. And for Mother's Day, celebrated French chef Alain Ducasse hosts Nature of a Good Party, a gourmet brunch at Mix at THEhotel at Mandalay Bay.

Of course, the highlight of the event is the Grand Tasting, a bacchanal of food from 50 chefs and wines and spirits from more than 100 purveyors around the world. Look for the best restaurants in Las Vegas to showcase their fare at the Garden of the Gods, the 5-acre pool complex at Caesars Palace, during the extravaganza on Friday, May 10. ❖



Grand Tasting photo by Ethan Miller  
Mandalay Bay chefs photo by David Becker