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Sip & Savor with celebrity judges and top eateries at La Costa Film Festival's Opening Gala

CARLSBAD, CA (October 7, 2016) — Kick off the La Costa Film Festival with the Sip & Savor Gala, a night of gastronomic excellence, brought to you by the area's finest restaurants, award-winning craft breweries, and boutique wineries. The event will give you a chance to taste the local flavors, while mingling with industry professionals!

Festivities begin at 5:30pm on Thursday October 13th at Omni La Costa Resort & Spa, the perfect way to get the weekend vibes rolling. Leave the work at work and wind down with a glass of wine from local wineries Solterra Winery & Kitchen and Carruth Cellars Urban Winery, or really get the weekend started with a drink from St. Petersburg Vodka.

It wouldn't be a San Diego event without craft breweries, so Sip & Savor is bringing you some of the best. Latitude 33 Brewing, Legacy Brewery, and Duckfoot Brewery will be pouring refreshing craft beers, the perfect accompaniment to all the gourmet grub. Golden Coast Mead will be serving their effervescent ale made from fermented honey.

With a beverage in hand, indulge yourself in all the local culinary specialties. This year's gastronomic lineup includes: La Costa's very own Omni Restaurant, Cinépolis and the new Bob's Steak & Chop House, coastal cuisine by Chandler's Restaurant and TWENTY/20, Italian food from Gregorio's and The Privateer Coal Fire Pizza, as well as charcuterie from Vigilucci's Gourmet Market and Angel's Salumi & Truffles. Green Dragon Tavern & Museum, Flying Pig Pub & Kitchen, The Main Course, Baker & Olive, Mission Ave Bar & Grill, Urban Plates, and Gelson's will also be serving up tasty bites. Bistro West will provide a special item for the event prepared by the great Chef John— get your tickets to find out what the decadent treat will be.

Remember to save room for dessert! Back by popular demand, Gaia Gelato will once again offer its authentic freshly made Italian gelato. Authentic artisan cheesecake from D'Armond Family Cheesecake pairs perfectly with a post-dinner cappuccino from Leap Coffee & Roastery.

This year's event will also include an exclusive competition in which four culinary industry experts serve as celebrity judges. The judges will vote for the Best Sip, Best Savor and Best Presentation. The judges are: Chef Andrew Spurgin (www.andrewspurgin.com), Chef James Montejano (<https://chefsroll.com/JamesMontejano>), President and Co-Founder of Chef's Roll, Frans van der Lee (<https://about.me/fransvanderlee>) and Chef Tina Luu (<https://chefsroll.com/cheftinaluu>).

The winners will be honored at the Festival's Saturday Night Star Awards Presentation. After the stars come out, you'll be escorted to the Omni Center Court outdoor 30' x 17' screen for viewing the Opening Night feature film, *THREE DAYS IN AUGUST*. Don't miss out on this chance to sip and savor the local flavor! [Get your tickets now](#), and we can't wait to see you there.



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