



**For Immediate Release**

**Contact: Ginger Lilley Peace**  
**904-285-2004**

## **Ponte Vedra Beach Food and WineFest Features 145 Wines and Champagnes Three-Day Event Begins Friday, November 7**

**PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL (September 10, 2008)** – Hundreds of wines from all over the world, a celebration of Italian cuisine, wine and specialties and a champagne brunch featuring the celebrated Champagnes of Moët & Chandon headline this year's Ponte Vedra Beach Food & WineFest. Presented by the Ponte Vedra Beach Chamber of Commerce, the seventh annual event takes place at the Sawgrass Golf Resort & Spa, A Marriott Resort, on Friday, Nov. 7, Saturday, Nov. 8, and Sunday, Nov. 9.

The Food and WineFest opens Friday evening with **Bella Sera, a Celebration of Italian Food, Wine & Specialties**. Guests will savor a Five-Course Tasting Menu prepared by the Sawgrass Resort's award winning Chef Brett A. Smith. The menu will be paired with the wines of Banfi Vintners, presented by their Wine Education Director, William J. Whiting. The evening's silent auction will include jewelry by Italian designer J.J. Marco, provided by Underwood Jewelers. Live auction items include colorful handcrafted Italian ceramics from Vietri, Roma Home Décor and a trip for two to Italy.

**The Grand Tasting** on Saturday, Nov. 8, is the centerpiece of the Food & WineFest. More than 145 international wines, domestic wines and champagnes will be available for tasting. Guests will also be treated to samples of signature dishes of 15 gourmet and specialty restaurants. Mini-wine seminars and tastings of specialty products will round out the tasting. Silent auction items will include wines, weekend getaways, gourmet dining and more.

Sunday's **Champagne Brunch** has been an early sellout since its inception. The Four-Course Champagne Brunch prepared by the Chef Brett

Smith, and featuring Moët & Chandon champagne, will be held in the Sawgrass Resort's Augustine Grille.

Ticket prices for the Food and WineFest are: Bella Sera, \$75; Grand Tasting, \$45 in advance, \$50 at the door; Champagne Brunch, \$75; Bella Sera and Grand Tasting combo, \$100. Tickets for tables of 10 for the Grand Tasting and Bella Sera are also available. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach.

For more information and to reserve tickets for the Ponte Vedra Beach Food and WineFest, call the Ponte Vedra Beach Chamber of Commerce at 904-285-2004 or e-mail [info@pontevedrachamber.org](mailto:info@pontevedrachamber.org).

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### **EVENT INFORMATION:**

**What:** Ponte Vedra Beach Food & WineFest, a Three-Day Celebration of Gourmet Food, Wine and Champagne

**Where:** Sawgrass Golf Resort & Spa, Ponte Vedra Beach.

**When:** Friday, Nov. 7, 6:30 pm, Bella Sera, a Celebration of Italian Food, Wine & Specialties; Saturday, Nov. 8, 3 to 6 pm, The Grand Tasting; Sunday, Nov. 9, 11:30 am Champagne Brunch

**Tickets:** Bella Sera, \$75; Grand Tasting, \$45 in advance, \$50 at the door; Champagne Brunch, \$75; Bella Sera and Grand Tasting combo, \$100.

**Who:** Presented by the Ponte Vedra Beach Chamber of Commerce

**Information:** 904-285-2004