

MEDIA RELEASE

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Attention: News Editor

Festival of flavour

Food fans across the Great Southern are salivating at the prospect of weeks spent celebrating the region's finest flavours.

Taste Great Southern 2017 officially started on Wednesday 22 March with a function at the Albany Surf Life Saving Club.

Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) Chair Ross Thornton said the festival attracted visitors to the region and set up opportunities for regional residents and businesses.

Mr Thornton said Taste Great Southern was supported by a \$50,000 grant through the GSDC's Community Chest Fund, effective over two years of the event.

"Providing multi-year funding is an important support for icon events such as Taste, because it enables the organisers to plan ahead and develop more sustainable programs," Mr Thornton said.

"The GSDC has supported Taste since it started in 2005 and we are pleased to continue to support the festival in 2017 and 2018.

"Taste is a delightful celebration of freshness and flavour from the Great Southern, and a showcase for culinary talent," Mr Thornton said.

Taste's 2017 program includes a wine and food festival in Albany on Saturday 8 April, night markets at a Denmark winery, masterclasses, and a range of long table and tasting events.

Featured guests include Spanish-Australian chef and restaurateur Miguel Maestre and television chef and food judge Colin Fassnidge.

Taste Great Southern runs until Sunday 9 April. Full program details are available at www.tastegreatsouthern.com.au.

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