

# The Palm Beach Post

## Celebrity lineup: 6 top food stars coming to Palm Beach Food and Wine Festival

*You may recognize these faces among the Michelin stars and James Beard Award winners this weekend.*



**Liz Balmaseda**  
Palm Beach Post

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Guests gather at the 2021 Palm Beach Food and Wine Festival's "Grillin' n' Chillin'" cookout at the Eau Palm Beach resort. *Michael Pisarri*

This is the weekend the culinary stars align over Palm Beach and four surrounding cities. The Michelin stars. The James Beard Award winners. The Food Network celebs. The “Top Chef” alums. A constellation of them are in town for the nearly sold-out [Palm Beach Food and Wine Festival](#), which runs from Thursday through Sunday.

Not bad for a food fest that began in 2007 as a tasting event at a Worth Avenue shopping plaza. That three-hour micro event would transform into an annual, multi-day extravaganza of celebrity-chef dinners, walk-around tastings, wine seminars, cookouts, lunches, brunches and late-night parties.

This year, there are 24 events scattered throughout Palm Beach, West Palm Beach, Palm Beach Gardens, Manalapan and Lantana.

“I’m excited for everything,” says festival director David Sabin.

Sabin helped establish the one-night tasting event when he worked with a local public relations firm. Later on his own, he grew the original event to the multi-day, star-studded festival it has been since 2011. (Technically, this is the 10th year of the festival’s extended version, if you omit its [2020 canceling](#) due to the COVID pandemic.)



Festival's first couple: Palm Beach Food and Wine Festival director David Sabin and wife/partner Chef Lindsay Autry of The Regional Kitchen and Honeybelle restaurants. *LILA PHOTO*

Sabin marks the arrival of the culinary spree each year at the Four Season Resort, the festival’s host hotel.

“You start seeing the chefs checking in at the front desk or sitting by the pool. When I get there, I know it’s festival time,” he says.

Who are these luminaries that might be lounging by the pool, when they’re not finessing dishes for fest-goers this weekend?

Here are the five you may recognize at first glance.

# Jeremy Ford



Chef Jeremy Ford opened The Butcher's Club, a steakhouse at the PGA National Resort in Palm Beach Gardens, in January. *Alissa Dragun*

A newly minted Michelin-starred chef (for his Miami Beach restaurant Stubborn Seed), Ford has an important link to Palm Beach County – he has a newish high-end steakhouse, [The Butcher's Club](#), at the PGA National Resort. You may recognize the Jacksonville native as the winner of “Top Chef” Season 13 and the host of the truTV series “Fast Foodies”. Ford earned a semifinals nod from the James Beard Foundation in February for a James Beard Award for “Best Chef” in the South. Along with fellow “Top Chef” alum and James Beard semifinalist Lindsay Autry, Ford will headline the festival’s Bubbles & Bites, A Yacht Rock Experience tasting party (\$200 per person) at PGA National, home to Autry’s Honeybelle restaurant.