



FOOD&WINE Awards



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MEDIA RELEASE

All-new FOOD&WINE Awards – Winners revealed!

Ireland's best spots for Romance, Business, Brunch and Pub Food announced

Ross Lewis from Chapter One named FOOD&WINE Chef of the Year

Restaurant Patrick Guilbaud named FOOD&WINE Restaurant of the Year

The winners of the all-new FOOD&WINE Awards in association with Nespresso were announced at a gala luncheon in The Clayton Hotel, Burlington Road, Dublin. The event was attended by Ireland's top chefs and restaurateurs from across the country and was hosted by broadcaster and publisher, Norah Casey, and comedian Colm O'Regan. Guests were treated to a five-course meal alongside perfectly matched wines courtesy of wine distributors Febvre & Co.

This year, a host of new categories were introduced to reflect the changing face of the Irish culinary scene and capture Ireland's food revolution.

Ireland's Best Brunch was revealed to be found in Hadskis, Belfast; Best for Romance was awarded to Gregans Castle, Clare; and l'Ecrivain was named as the Best Restaurant for Business.

The Best Local Award – which represents all that is wonderful about a quality and personal restaurant experience at your doorstep, wherever that may be – went to Noble in Holywood, Co. Down. The new Farm & Sea to Plate Award recognises those in the industry going the extra mile to build relationships with their local suppliers, and Grow HQ in Waterford was a

worthy recipient of the winning position. Whelehans Wines in Dublin took the Best for Wine Lovers Award, which celebrates those venues that offer a wine experience to remember, while Café of the Year was awarded to Country Choice in Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.

The biggest awards of the night – for Overall Chef and Restaurant of the Year – went to Ross Lewis of Chapter One and Restaurant Patrick Guilbaud respectively.

Mag Kirwan of Goatsbridge Trout was also inducted into the FOOD&WINE Magazine Hall of Fame on the day. This award is all about saluting those in the industry who are breaking down barriers and constantly innovating, for the overall good of our food industry. Mag is a huge supporter of local food and advocate of sustainable fishing. She has dedicated much of her time to encouraging people to eat fish, including a self-published *Fishwives* cookbook which helped to raise funds for Hospice Africa Uganda.

Other big winners on the day included The Catalina Restaurant, Co. Fermanagh; Kai, Galway; The Lady Helen Restaurant, Co. Kilkenny; Renvyle House, Galway; and Klaw, Dublin.

"Ireland is celebrating a food revolution at the moment – in every corner of the country both fine dining and casual restaurants are championing high quality ingredients and offering beautifully thought out and creative menus. Also, our wine and drinks offering has really come on in leaps and bounds in recent years. We also wanted to shine a light this year on the local food heroes – the pubs, cafés and neighbourhood eateries that mirror the magazine through thoughtful and quality sourcing," commented Miriam Atkins, editor of FOOD&WINE Magazine.

Commenting on the menu presented on the day, Miriam adds: "We decided to switch things up this year and ditch the traditional, formal set up. Instead we encouraged 'family-style' dining with shared platters of seafood, charcuterie and vegetables, each celebrating some of the country's best food producers. The star of the show was our Ballinwillin House wild boar served with crispy crackling, braising liquor, apple chutney and wilted kale."

Gordon Thompson, Nespresso Business Solutions, Commercial Manager Ireland said: "Nespresso are delighted to be principal sponsor of the wonderful FOOD&WINE Awards for a third year. These awards shine a light on the culinary innovators that are putting Ireland on the world food map. We are delighted to celebrate innovation and excellence, values shared by Nespresso and congratulate this year's deserving winners, wishing them every success."

Now in its 17th year, The FOOD&WINE Awards in association with Nespresso are considered the most prestigious and authoritative culinary awards in the Irish calendar. Recognising the best Irish restaurants and culinary talent, diners from all over Ireland were invited to nominate their favourite restaurants and chefs, with the top entries going forward for deliberation by a national culinary panel of judges, made up of industry experts and national food critics.

(Ends)

Notes to Editors:

- The Editor of FOOD&WINE Magazine Miriam Atkins is available for interview and comment: +353 (0) 1 2405333 / 086 8188755.
- FOOD&WINE Magazine is Ireland's 'Food and Drink Bible'; the leading publication for the ever growing sector of Irish people interested in food, drink, dining out and leisure breaks and published by Harmonia, the largest magazine publishing company in Ireland.

FOOD&WINE Awards WINNERS 2017

Best Overall Restaurant	Restaurant Patrick Guilbaud, Dublin
Best Overall Chef	Ross Lewis, Chapter One, Dublin
Destination Restaurant of the Year	The Lady Helen, Mount Juliet, Kilkenny
Chef-Driven Menu of the Year	Kai, Galway
Local of the Year	Noble, Holywood, Down
Pub Food of the Year	Murray's Bar, Doonmore Hotel, Inishbofin, Galway
Restaurant Bar of the Year	Roberta's, Dublin
Café of the Year	Country Choice, Nenagh, Tipperary
Hotel Restaurant of the Year	The Catalina Restaurant, Lough Erne Resort, Fermanagh
Restaurant with Rooms	Blairscove Restaurant, Durrus, Cork
Best for Wine Lovers	Whelehan's Wines, The Silver Tassie, Dublin
Best for Brunch	Hadskis, Belfast
Farm & Sea to Plate Award	Grow HQ, Waterford
Rising Star of the Year	Hilary O'Hagan Brennan
Pastry Chef of the Year	Darren Hogarty, Chapter One, Dublin
Host of the Year	Alain Kerloc'h, Ox, Belfast
Room with a View	La Fougere, Knockranny House Hotel, Mayo
Best for Romance	Gregans Castle, Clare
Best for Fun Lovers	Klaw, Dublin
Best for Business	l'Ecrivain, Dublin
Best for Families	Renvyle House Hotel, Galway
Dining at Home Award	Chakra by Jaipur, Wicklow
Cookbook of the Year	Neven Maguire's Complete Family Cookbook
Ambassador of the Year	John Healy, Suesey Street
Hall of Fame	Mag Kirwan, Goatsbridge Trout

COMMENDATIONS were also awarded to the following:

Destination Restaurant of the Year – Highly Commended	Harry's Shack, Portstewart, Derry
Commended	Inis Méain Restaurant and Suites, Aran Islands, Galway
Chef-Driven Menu of the Year – Highly Commended	Ida's Restaurant, Dingle, Kerry
Commended	Heron & Grey, Blackrock, Dublin
Local of the Year – Highly Commended	Da Mimmo, Dublin
Commended	The Good Things Café, Skibbereen, Cork
Pub Food of the Year – Highly Commended	The Salty Dog, Bangor, Down

Commended	The Long Dock, Carrigaholt, Dublin
Restaurant Bar of the Year – Highly Commended	Cask, Cork
Commended	Galgorm Cocktail & Gin Bar, Antrim
Café of the Year – Highly Commended	Grow HQ, Waterford
Commended	Two Boys Brew, Dublin
Hotel Restaurant of the Year – Highly Commended	La Fougere, Knockranny House Hotel, Mayo
Commended	Gregans Castle Hotel, Clare
Restaurant with Rooms – Highly Commended	Inis Meain Restaurant and Suites, Aran Islands, Galway
Commended	The Old Convent, Cahir, Tipperary
Best for Wine Lovers – Highly Commended	Ox, Belfast
Commended	L'Attitude 51 Wine Café, Cork
Best for Brunch – Highly Commended	Brother Hubbard North, Dublin
Commended	Cloud Café, Dublin
Farm & Sea to Plate Award – Highly Commended	Harry's Shack, Derry
Commended	The Global Village, Dingle, Kerry
Pastry Chef of the Year – Highly Commended	Paul Kelly, The Merrion, Dublin
Commended	Aoife Noonan, Luna/777/SMS/The Butcher Grill, Dublin
Host of the Year – Highly Commended	Stephane Robin, Restaurant Patrick Guilbaud, Dublin
Commended	Ronnie Counihan, Renvyle House, Galway
Room with a View – Highly Commended	Harry's Shack, Portstewart, Derry
Commended	Gregans Castle Hotel, Clare
Best for Romance – Highly Commended	The Strawberry Tree, Brooklodge, Wicklow
Commended	1826 Adare, Limerick
Best for Fun Lovers – Joint Highly Commended	Las Tapas de Lola, Dublin & Harry's Shack, Derry
Best for Business - Highly Commended	Campagne, Kilkenny
Commended	One Pico, Dublin
Best for Families – Highly Commended	Da Mimmo, Dublin
Commended	Michael's, Mount Merrion, Dublin
Dining at Home Award – Highly Commended	Miyazaki, Cork
Commended	Holy Smoke, Cork
Rising Star – Highly Commended	Katie Sanderson
Commended	Louise Bannon
Best Overall Restaurant – Highly Commended	Ox, Belfast
Best Overall Restaurant Commended	Chapter One, Dublin
Best Overall Chef – Highly Commended	Stephen Toman, Ox, Belfast
Best Overall Chef – Commended	Danni Barry, Deanes Eipic, Belfast