



BVI Wine & Food Festival
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Michelin Star and James Beard Award winners come the
British Virgin Islands with the 1st Annual BVI Wine & Food Festival**

Tuesday, May 7, 2013, Road Town, Tortola: Taking place November 1st to 3rd this year the BVI Wine & Food Festival is a new and dynamic event for the British Virgin Islands combining the talents of the best chefs in the Territory along with internationally renowned names in the culinary and winemaking worlds.

The festival is pleased to welcome acclaimed Chef Cesare Casella Chef/Owner of Salumeria Rosi Parmacotto in New York City. Chef Casella is also Dean of Italian Studies at the International Culinary Center in New York City, and who's new cookbook "Fundamentals of Italian Cuisine", was recently nominated for a James Beard Award. We also welcome renowned pastry Chef François Payard, owner of multiple Patisseries and Bakeries around the world, and has earned numerous awards including Three Michelin stars throughout his career. Top Chef finalist Chef Jennifer Carroll, who spent 4 years at Eric Ripert's Three Michelin Star, Le Bernardin in New York City, and most recently 10 Arts at the Ritz-Carlton Philadelphia also joins us on this historic weekend.

Joining this stellar line up of international talent as our fourth featured chef is the BVI's own Chef Travis Philips of The Dove Restaurant along with BVI Culinary Team gold medalist Chef/Owner Imran Ashton of Plumrose Restaurant. This exciting culinary

weekend is hosted by Chef Davide Pugliese of Scrub Island Resort, Spa & Marina. "We believe the timing for this event is perfect as there is an emerging food scene in the BVI for all things gastronomic. The public is eager to learn more about international cuisine and explore tastes and flavors that you might not have seen just a few years ago. We have very talented chefs in the BVI and they have responded to this change in culinary culture by hosting wine dinners and food demos that introduce new and exciting flavors to the territory." William Torrillo & Abby O'Neal, Festival Co-Founders & Directors.

The festival will feature three solo dinners by the international visiting chefs, a collaborative five course dinner with all five featured chefs as well as a beachside Grand Tasting Village at Nanny Cay Resort & Marina where wine merchants and restaurants will offer samplings along with entertainment, and featured demonstrations. Also on offer at the Grand Tasting Village are Wine Tasting Classes and an evening featuring rums and beers of the Caribbean.

Tickets are currently available for all events online at www.BVIWFF.com

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Event Hosts: Scrub Island Resort, Spa & Marina, Nanny Cay Resort & Marina

Sponsors & Partners: Digicel, Road Town Wholesale & RiteWay Food Markets, Caribbean Cellars, TICO, The Romasco Group, Meridian Construction, Green Technology, Good Moon Farms, Annie MacPhail/Nutmeg Designs

Participating Restaurants: The Fat Virgin's Café, The Dove Restaurant, Plumrose Restaurant

Culinary Advisors: Chef Nelson Millan, Executive Chef, San Antonio Country Club, Chef Kunal Chakrabarti, The Ritz-Carlton, Dorada, Chef Roberto Leoci, Leoci's Trattoria, Chef Frederic Delaire, Loews Hotel Miami Beach, and Mrs. Esther O'Neal - Wheatley, Owner Operator of The Fat Virgin's Café.