



Hon. George Souris M.P
Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Hospitality and Racing
Minister for the Arts

MEDIA RELEASE

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Hunter Valley Uncorks Wine And Food Month

Minister for Tourism and Major Events, George Souris, is encouraging the public to take part in the Hunter Valley Wine Food and Month, starting this Friday (June 1) which promises to be a celebration of fine living and fulfilment.

Mr Souris said the festival, which runs throughout the month of June, will draw visitors to the Hunter, in search of wintertime indulgence.

“The NSW Government is proud to be supporting the Hunter Valley Food and Wine Festival through Destination NSW. I congratulate the event organisers for successfully bringing the very best of the Hunter’s renowned winemakers and chefs together to celebrate the best of Australia’s finest wine and food region.

“Funding from Destination NSW facilitated the marketing of Hunter Wine and Food Month which will help to raise the profile of this unique festival throughout NSW and beyond and encourage tourism to the region during the winter season.

“Throughout June, visitors can indulge in a variety of activities, including wine and cheese tasting, intimate dinner events, master class sessions from leading chefs using the very best local produce, vineyard tours, opportunities to learn about winemaking, high tea and much more.

“Winter in the Hunter is a perfect time for some downtime with friends or a romantic escape. With a range of culinary activities, golf courses and luxurious spas and beautiful rolling countryside, the Hunter region makes for the most perfect winter getaway to relax and unwind,” Mr Souris said.

Mr Souris said events such as Hunter Wine and Food Month make a significant contribution to tourism in regional NSW.

“The NSW Government is committed to growing regional tourism in NSW. In 2011, more than 17 million overnight visitors stayed in regional NSW, spending \$8.7 billion.

“Tourism has the potential to contribute even more to the State’s economy which is why the Government has set the target of doubling overnight visitors to NSW by 2020,” Mr Souris said.

For the full list of events, visit <http://www.huntervalleyuncorked.com.au/hunter-valley-food-and-wine>