

The Socialite > Chefs' Holidays at The Ahwahnee Start January 8th

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Chefs from around the country, including several Bay Area notables, are gathering this month in Yosemite National Park for the 27th annual **-CHEFS' HOLIDAYS AT THE AHWAHNEE-**, a series of eight culinary retreats between January 8th and February 2nd at The Ahwahnee Hotel. Each session includes a "Meet the Chef" reception, three educational cooking demonstrations and tastings, a behind-the-scenes kitchen tour, and a five-course, candlelit Gala Dinner in the Ahwahnee Dining Room. The Gala Dinner, prepared by the chefs, also includes four wine pairings.

The eight sessions will span the range of American culinaria with 25 chefs and culinary professionals participating. Bay Area locals heading to Yosemite include **David Bazirgan** of Fifth Floor, **Ryan Scott** of Brunch Drunk Love and 3-Sum Eats, **Jen Bleisty** of Scala's Bistro, **Annie Somerville** of Greens, **Emily Luchetti** of Farallon, **Sean Baker** of Gather, and **Peggy Smith** and **Sue Conley** of Cowgirl Creamery. Other chef participants include Rick Moonen of RM Seafood in Las Vegas, Daniel Holzman of The Meatball Shop in New York, and Donald Link of Herbsaint in New Orleans. Here's the schedule:

Session 1: January 8th-10th

Moderator: Connie Barney, culinary travel consultant

Headliner: Kent Rathbun, Abacus, Jasper's and Rathbun's Blue Plate Kitchen, TX

Demonstrators: Annie Somerville, Greens, San Francisco; Brian Streeter, Cakebread Cellars, Napa.

Session 2: January 11th-12th

Moderator: Connie Barney, culinary travel consultant

Headliner: Suzanne Goin, Lucques, A.O.C., Tavern, Los Angeles

Demonstrators: Mark Esteve, Campo, Reno; Donald Link, Herbsaint, New Orleans

Session 3: January 15th-17th

Moderator: Andrew Friedman, author

Headliner: Peter Chastain, Prima, Walnut Creek

Demonstrators: Emily Luchetti, Farallon, San Francisco; Sean Baker, Gather, Berkeley

Session 4: January 18th-19th

Moderator: Andrew Friedman, author

Headliner: Rick Moonen, RM Seafood, Las Vegas

Demonstrators: Jimmy Bradley, The Red Cat/The Harrison, New York; Jesse Ziff Cool, Flea Street Café, Menlo Park

Session 5: January 22nd-24th

Moderator: Barbara Fairchild, food journalist

Headliner: David Bazirgan, Fifth Floor, San Francisco

Demonstrators: Daniel Holzman, The Meatball Shop, New York; Peggy Smith and Sue Conley, Cowgirl Creamery, Point Reyes

Session 6: January 25th-26th

Moderator: Barbara Fairchild, food journalist

Headliner: Christopher Lee, Eden, South Beach, FL, and Huntington Social, Huntington, NY

Demonstrators: Chris Proseni, Metro Bis, Simsbury, CT; Robert Anderson, The Golf Club at Boulder Ridge, San Jose

Session 7: January 29th-31st

A collaborative dinner featuring the men of *Top Chef*

Moderator: Janice Wald Henderson, food and travel writer

Host Chefs: Percy Whitley and Paul Padua, The Ahwahnee

Guest Chefs: Ryan Scott, Ryan Scott 2 Go, 3-Sum Eats, Brunch Drunk Love, San Francisco; Tre Wilcox, Marquee Grill & Bar, Dallas; Brian Malarkey, Searsucker and Burlap, San Diego

Session 8: February 1st-2nd

A collaborative dinner featuring the women of *Top Chef*

Moderator: Janice Wald Henderson

Guest Chefs: Jen Bleisty, Scala's Bistro, San Francisco; Ariane Duarte, CulinAriane, Montclair, NJ; Antonia Lofaso, Black Market, Studio City, CA

Two- and three-night packages at The Ahwahnee and Yosemite Lodge at the Falls start from \$896 and \$665, respectively, including lodging and admission for two to the Chefs' Holidays events. Tickets for the Gala Dinner are available for \$199/person, including gratuity. Tax not included. More info and reservations [online](#). The Ahwahnee, 1 Ahwahnee Dr. at Village Dr., Yosemite National Park.

Event Info

Sunday Jan 8, 2012 – Thursday Feb 2, 2012

\$665 and up

Info

The Ahwahnee

1 Ahwahnee Dr. at Village Dr., Yosemite National Park

Jan 3, 2012

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The Ahwahnee's pastry chef Paul Padua.
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- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
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- July 2011
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