

A sexy sweet on show

The Gallagher Convention Centre in Midrand will serve as a temple to the cocoa bean from 20 - 22 March 2009 for the first-time annual Chocolate Festival. The festival promises to bring a sensational line-up of exhibitors, chefs cooking with chocolate, live entertainment and a fairyland for the younger visitors, to list but a few attractions. The festival will also serve as a platform where exhibitors can showcase (and visitors experience) every possible incarnation of chocolate.


"Whether it's dark, milk or white chocolate, Swiss, Belgian, snack bars or sculptures, at the Chocolate Festival we will celebrate everything that's chocolate," says organiser Ronell Botha. "Few foodstuffs continue to engage consumers on such magical and mysterious levels. Millennia ago, chocolate was hailed as the food from the gods and today, not much has changed.

Premium ranges of hand-made chocolate, chocolate make-up ranges, exclusive fragrances as well as various tasting sessions (including variations of chocolate, wine, beer, biltong, coffee and liqueur) will also be on show.

A coffee lane will allow guests to experience the pleasant aroma of coffee (African, Brazillian, Asia-Pacific and Italian coffees) that will certainly test their taste buds. Other indulgences will include chocolate therapies and spas.

Hands-on educational workshops on the nutritional value of chocolate as raw food, the importance of child nutrition and the growing problem of food allergies as well as dealing with diabetes and the potential health risks of obesity will be held during the course of the festival.

Four Theatre Kitchens will see guests joining in daily cooking and tasting sessions with some of South Africa's finest chefs.

"Every taste, indulgence and passion will be catered for," says Botha, who adds that the ancillary sectors of candies, biscuits, coffees, wines, brandies and other spirits are included in the mix. "The show will incorporate all aspects and pairings that are possible, every combination, every taste, every lifestyle indulgence." 

For more information, visit www.chocexpo.co.za

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