



🏠 | Jl. Raya Sanggingan PO BOX 181
Ubud Bali Indonesia 80571
☎ | +62 361 977 408
🌐 | www.ubudfoodfestival.com
✉ | hello@ubudfoodfestival.com



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UBUD FOOD FESTIVAL CHEFS SHINE AT ASIA'S 50 BEST RESTAURANTS 2019

Ubud, INDONESIA–

Asia's 50 Best Restaurants 2019 announced in Macao last night stamped the seal of approval on **Ubud Food Festival 2019 Presented by ABC** (UFF) as Asia's leading culinary event. From 26–28 April in Ubud, Bali, a host of chefs on this year's list – the region's premier restaurant awards – will collaborate for one-off special events, demonstrate signature dishes at the Kitchen Stage, and participate in in-depth discussions at the Food for Thought stage. The 2019 list is also replete with previous UFF restaurants, cementing the Festival's position as Asia's leading food festival.

At #18 is **il Restaurante Luca Fantin** in Tokyo. At this year's UFF Chef **Luca Fantin** will collaborate with Nic Vanderbeeken who leads the kitchens at The Viceroy's Apéritif for eight courses of modern Mediterranean masterpieces on 27 April. Earlier that day Fantin will demonstrate risotto carnaroli cooked in parmesan water at the Kitchen Stage.

At #20 is **Le Du** in Bangkok. Chef **Thitid Tassanakajohn**, known as Ton, will bring his progressive Thai dishes rooted in tradition to the pre-UFF special event at Alila Seminyak's Seasalt on 24 April. From then on Chef Ton has a busy Festival schedule, demonstrating chu chee curry at the Kitchen Stage and participating in the Reality Bites discussion at the Food for Thought stage (26 April), and cooking for the special events Best of Asia at Nusantara by Locavore (27 April), and Into the Wild at Locavore (28 April).

At #42 is Indonesia's only list entrant, Ubud's hometown heroes **Locavore**, which also received the **Sustainable Restaurant Award** for promoting sustainable practices in all its facets. Generous supporters of UFF since its inception, Chefs **Eelke Plasmeijer** and **Ray Adriansyah** will collaborate for the special events Best of Asia and Into the Wild.

Locavore's R&D arm **LocaLAB** will also host the special event Explore Umami and Acidity on 26 April. Its Head of R&D **Felix Schoener** will also demonstrate methods



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for minimizing food waste at the Teater Kuliner stage, and participate in the Future Foods discussion at the Food for Thought stage on 27 April.

UFF is also thrilled to welcome new entrants to this year's Asia's 50 Best List. At #43 is **Toyo Eatery** in Manila. Chef **Jordy Navarra** presents familiar Filipino flavors through bright new dishes, and will demonstrate the Filipino version of ceviche at the Kitchen Stage on 26 April. He's also part of the special events Best of Asia and Into the Wild, and the Stories from Behind the Pass discussion on 26 April.

Another new entrant is **Dewakan** at #46 – the first time a Malaysian restaurant has been included in the Asia's 50 Best list. Chef **Darren Teoh** will bring his modern Malaysian cuisine to the Kitchen Stage on 27 April, and to the special events Best of Asia and Into the Wild. He'll also share his experiences at The Dark Side and Stories from Behind the Pass discussions.

JL Studio in Taiwan received the **One to Watch Award** for 2019, after Toyo Eatery was last year's recipient. Chef **Jimmy Lim** will demonstrate his modern Singaporean cuisine with a mushroom and abalone version of Singapore's famous bak kut teh at the Kitchen Stage on 26 April. He'll join the other Asia's 50 Best chefs for the special events Best of Asia and Into the Wild, and is part of the Stories from Behind the Pass discussion.

This year's Asia's 50 Best list features many restaurants that were part of previous years of UFF, including **Odette** at #1 (UFF16), **Gaggan** at #2 (UFF18), **Burnt Ends** at #10 (UFF15), and **Bo.Lan** at #19 (UFF17).

"We send our warm congratulations to all chefs who made this year's Asia's 50 Best list," commented UFF Founder & Director Janet DeNeefe. "And of course a special congratulations to all the listed chefs who will help us serve this year's UFF. We're thrilled to be bringing you together in Ubud next month for the fifth year of Asia's best – and spiciest – food festival!"

For all UFF19 Special Events click here:

<http://www.ubudfoodfestival.com/program-category/special-events/>

For all UFF19 Kitchen Stage events click here:

<http://www.ubudfoodfestival.com/program-category/kitchen-stage/>



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Presented by
YAYASAN
MUDRA
SWARI
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ABC

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More Information

- The three-day program from 26 to 28 April, 2019, spans a range of ticketed and free events, from cooking demonstrations, special events, workshops and food tours, to markets, film screenings, live music and in-depth panel discussions.
- Special events will take place at various locations around Ubud.
- A not-for-profit initiative, the Ubud Food Festival is underpinned by a mission to support Indonesia's vibrant and sustainable culinary and tourism industries.
- The full lineup and program is now live, and tickets are on sale from the website.
- Visit ubudfoodfestival.com for all information.
- Instagram and Facebook: @ubudfoodfest
- Official hashtags: #UFF19 #ABCUFF19

Media Contact

Julia Winterflood, International Media Consultant
julia@yayasansaraswati.org | +62 812 9942 7591

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