

Australia is voted the second best food and wine destination in the world

Research shows that two thirds of traveller's say Australia has the second best food and wine in the world, following France and ahead of Italy.

Australia is voted the second most popular food and wine destination by travelers around the world, following France and ahead of Italy, according to research by Tourism Australia.

The Tourism Australia research also shows that Australia is voted the number one food and wine destination, according to visitors from China, USA, France, India, Indonesia, Malaysia the UK and South Korea.

Lisa Murray, Director of Australia Trip Planner said there is a growing appetite for Australia, as more and more visitors discover our amazing home grown produce, chefs and wines.

"This is an incredible achievement for such a young country. We are competing against countries with a long and rich history of food and wine production, and who are renowned for their particular styles and flavours.

"But that just may be our edge! While Australia is just over 200 years old, Australia's big advantage is that we've always welcomed migrants, and they in turn have shared their traditions, flavours and recipes with us. As a result, Australia is an amazing melting pot of flavours from all over the world.

"We don't have a strict style and tradition. Instead we take the best flavours from other countries, add the freshest home grown produce, give it a twist, and call it modern Australian. This technique works because nearly two thirds of people who have visited Australia rank our food and wine as second in the world, and only after France."

Another key element to Australia's crowning food and wine glory is that it serves up unpretentious food by chefs who know how to bring out the best flavours and to make them dance in your mouth.

Lisa said: "This is yet another reason why Australia has so many 'celebrity chefs' in the international arena. They are fun people and they want you to have fun. They are not happy if you leave their restaurant unhappy because eating out is all about the experience."

Some of the celebrity chefs and their restaurants include Mat Moran's Aria Sydney or Aria Brisbane, Neil Perry's Rockpool in Sydney or his renowned Rockpool bar and Grill at the Melbourne Crown Casino, Mark Best's Marque, and Luke Mangan's Glass Brasserie, to name but a few.

But it's not just about the high-end restaurants that have travellers salivating for more. Australia's pubs and casual eateries serve up both value for money and great flavours.

In addition, there's the many wineries and vineyards throughout Australia that offer a complete food and wine experience. While people get to enjoy locally made wines when they visit the cellar doors, Australia has also made a name for itself as an international wine producer and exporter, with locally made wines filling supermarket shelves all over the world.

Lisa said: "Today's travellers want a complete holiday. They want to experience the place they are visiting, they want to see the sights, enjoy the beauty and natural environments, and they want to feast on great food and wine.

"Let's face it, they're away from your usual routine and they don't have to do the cooking. This is their opportunity to dine on someone else's hard work, so they expect a taste sensation. Fortunately for Australia, this country is rich in locally grown produce, wines and amazing chefs, and when you combine all three ingredients, you create magic."

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