

NORTH AMERICAN TRUFFLE DOG CHAMPION AND THE OREGON TRUFFLE FESTIVAL'S FEBRUARY WEEKEND

A Chihuahua wins at The Joriad and opportunities for more Oregon truffles in wine country February 16 - 18, 2018

Portland, Ore. (February 6, 2018) — [The Oregon Truffle Festival](#), North America's premier truffle celebration and a nonprofit organization promoting the state's native truffle industry, closed its first weekend in truffle country and is gearing up for its second weekend in Newberg, Oregon, taking place February 16 through 18, 2018.

During the events spanning January 25 through 28, the festival welcomed **more than a thousand truffle enthusiasts, 63 truffle dogs, and 48 chefs from across the country**. The 17 culinary events took place in Eugene, Oregon, and utilized **more than 40 pounds of Oregon truffles**, namely foraged Oregon white and Oregon black truffles.



The weekend opened with [Joriad™](#), the North American Truffle Dog competition, on January 25. The two-part event, with a first round at Lane County Fairgrounds and the second in a truffle orchard, saw 24 amateur truffle dog competitors.

In a contest that gives new meaning to the phrase “everyone loves an underdog,” a **Chihuahua rescue dog named Gustave** (pictured, left) received the most cheers, found the most truffles, and **took first place**. More photos from the event can be found [here](#).

The weekend events included [Truffle Dog Training Seminar](#), now in its 10th year, the two-day [Truffle Growers' Forum](#), wherein nine of the 80 attendees had their own producing truffle orchards, the iconic [Grand Truffle Dinner](#) and the second annual [Oregon Truffle MacDown](#) competition.

In February, truffle lovers will have **more of opportunities to experience Oregon truffles** during the [Yamhill Valley Weekend](#), taking place over

Presidents' Day Weekend from February 16 to 18. The weekend **pays homage to Oregon truffle champion and native Oregonian James Beard**, with film, food, conversation, and a truffle hunt in wine country.

A reception with Willamette Valley Vineyards at the Chehalem Cultural Center on Friday, February 16, will precede a showing of "James Beard: America's First Foodie." The showing will be followed by a Q & A with Director **Beth Federici** and Co-producer **Kathleen Squires**. On Saturday, February 17, weekend ticket-holders will join a morning truffle hunt led by professional truffle hunters and their dogs, followed by a winery luncheon at Gran Moraine or Brooks Wines.

On Saturday evening, Domaine Serene will host a special rosé release followed by the weekend's marquee event, the five-course **Grand Truffle Dinner**. Chefs participating in the weekend include **Vitaly Paley** (Paley's Place, Imperial, Headwaters), **Naomi Pomeroy** (Beast), **Cathy Whims** (Nostrana, Oven & Shaker), and **Ken Forkish** (Ken's Artisan Bakery, Trifecta), among others.

The Yamhill Valley Weekend closes on Sunday with the [Newberg Fresh Truffle Marketplace](#), which brings together regional wines from Soter Vineyards, Gran Moraine, Angela Estate, Brooks, and others, artisan foods from Esotico Pasta, Oregon Olive Mill, Olympia Provisions, and The Beautiful Pig, among others—as well as fresh Oregon truffles for sale. The event also offers culinary and truffle dog demonstrations, from Chef John Newman (Newmans at 988, Cannon Beach, OR) and truffle dog trainer Sunny Diaz and Oregon Truffle Festival Founder Charles Lefevre, respectively. Tickets to the event are \$15 without wine tasting and \$25 with wine tasting (\$30 at the door). More information and ticket sales can be found on oregontrufflefestival.org.

Now operating as a nonprofit, the Oregon Truffle Festival intends to expand its programming to year-round culinary, educational and training opportunities to further promote and support Oregon's native truffle industry.

The Oregon Truffle Festival is made possible with generous support from 1859 Oregon's Magazine, 1889 Washington's Magazine, Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce, Chehalem Cultural Center, Domaine Serene, Hilton Eugene, and Willamette Valley Vineyards. Additional support comes from Alesong Brewing, Angela Estate, Bolted Services, Brooks Wines, Capitello Wines, DRY Sparkling, Eugene Cascades & Coast, The Falls Event Center, Food for Lane County, Marché, Gran Moraine Winery, Heritage Spirits, Illahe Vineyards, King Estate, Oregon Wine Lab, Oregon Wine Press, New World Truffieres, Ninkasi Brewing, Pfeiffer Winery, Red Hills Market, Ruddick/Wood, Travel Oregon, Visit McMinnville, and Wildcraft Cider Works.

ABOUT THE OREGON TRUFFLE FESTIVAL

The Oregon Truffle Festival is North America's premier event for truffle appreciation and education. Held every winter in the Willamette Valley, it attracts

thousands of culinary travelers, chefs, growers, dog trainers, scientists and journalists from all over the globe for a series of dynamic and participatory events. The festival was founded in 2006 by renowned mycologist Dr. Charles K. Lefevre and his wife, Leslie Scott, and is run in partnership with Culinary Director Charles Ruff. Dr. Lefevre is also the founder of [New World Truffieres](#), a company specializing in truffle cultivation. Now in its 13th year, the Oregon Truffle Festival is operating as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. The 2018 Oregon Truffle Festival will be held in Eugene from January 25 - 28, and Yamhill Valley from February 16 - 18, 2018. Follow the Oregon Truffle Festival on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) for updates.

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