

5 food and drinks events happening in metro Phoenix this weekend

By Phoenix New Times Writers

Get out and enjoy the sunshine this weekend at metro Phoenix events. This weekend's festivals celebrate cuisines and cultures from around the country and the world. Sample Louisiana crawfish, participate in a taco-eating contest or travel a little further afield with a festival focusing on Japan. Here are five food and drinks events happening around the Valley this weekend.

8th Annual Crawfish Boil & Brews

Feb. 24

10144 W. Lake Pleasant Parkway, Peoria Peoria Artisan Brewing will fly in Louisiana crawfish for its eighth Boil & Brews event. From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., the brewery will serve a special menu, including "a mess'o crawfish" with andouille sausage, corn and potatoes for \$16.99. Expect live music from Crosstown Players from noon to 3 p.m. The event is free to attend and is first come, first served.

Laveen BBQ

Feb. 24

7858 S. 35th Ave., Laveen The annual Laveen BBQ is celebrating its 72nd anniversary on Saturday at Cesar Chavez Park. The event gathers barbecue experts from around the Valley to share their best offerings. Money raised at the event helps support student and youth groups, scholarships and community events in Laveen. The event runs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and admission and parking are free.

Taco Wars

Feb. 24

57th Ave. and Glenn Drive, Glendale This food truck event is focused on all things taco with several trucks meeting in downtown Glendale from 1 to 6 p.m. for an afternoon of handheld eats, a beer garden and live music. Test your love of tacos at the taco-eating competition. Participating food trucks include Lola's Tacos, Estero Beach Tacos, FatBoyz Tacos and Lost Burro Tacos and Stuff, among others. Entry to the event is free.

Devour Culinary Classic

Feb. 24-25

1201 N. Galvin Parkway Chefs from around the Valley will meet at the Desert Botanical Garden for this perennially sold-out tasting extravaganza. Devour features more than 70 food and beverage businesses over the weekend, with as many as 25 restaurateurs serving each day.

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Arizona Matsuri Festival

Feb. 24-25

300 E. Indian School Road Arizona Matsuri Festival, hosted at Indian School Park, is a free two-day festival focusing on all aspects of Japanese culture, including music and dance, martial arts, food and drink and more. Culinary delights include a traditional tea ceremony demonstration, beer and sake garden and food from restaurants including Hana Japanese Eatery, Nishikawa Ramen and Pokitrition.

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