



the IWFS Grapevine

IWFS INTERNATIONAL NEWS
JULY 2019



OUR FESTIVALS

PORTUGAL 9-16 JUNE 2019 AMERICAS FESTIVAL

LISBON PRE-TOUR: 6-9 JUNE 2019

Lisbon was the start of a superb ten day festival organised by the Americas. Of the 106 registered for the Douro Cruise, 93 joined the pre-tour in Lisbon. *The Four Seasons Ritz* served as our home base, a stately lodging with wonderful spacious common areas.

We enjoyed a delightful Welcome Reception and Dinner in the hotel the evening of arrival. There was a lively buzz in the room, as everyone was excited for the coming days.

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BORDEAUX EAZ FESTIVAL APRIL 4-8, 2019

April found 34 members of IWFS gather in Bordeaux for an illuminating and wonderful guided tour of three of the most significant areas of the Bordeaux region – Pessac-Léognan and the Médoc, on the left bank and the Libournais, around Saint Émilion, on the right bank.

Half of the participants were from EAZ, 11 from the Americas and 6 from Asia Pacific. Eleven of whom were festival “first timers” - a wonderful international mix with a common interest in good food, great wine and like-minded company.

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OUR BRANCHES

FORT WORTH MEETS AUCKLAND - IN BUDAPEST



Pictured here are members Ben Matheson, President of the Fort Worth branch in Texas, and Zsuzsanna Tantos-Rangi, from the Auckland branch touring the *Great Market Hall* and enjoying dinner in the *Restaurant Aszú Étterem* in Budapest recently. Ben was staying there with fellow branch member Al Komatsu, and Claire Curry and Margie Veale, and they were keen to seek out some of the best places to visit and dine.



Using Society branch contacts meant that Ben was introduced to Zsuzsanna, who divides her time between New Zealand and Budapest (her home city). Zsuzsanna was only too pleased that she and her husband Frank were in town to welcome the visitors showing them the sights, tasting the local delicacies and of course the delicious *Tokaji* wines. Ben said “We were treated as very special guests and we received many questions about Texas, the foods and wines we enjoy, and about our lifestyles. All in all having the opportunity to meet Zsuzsanna and Frank was a highlight of our visit to Budapest.”



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PORTUGAL 9-16 JUNE 2019 AMERICAS FESTIVAL

LISBON PRE-TOUR (continued)

We were treated to a city tour, transported by trams nicknamed 'American' in reference to the cable cars of San Francisco. Aboard the trams, our guides were ladies dressed in typical Lisbon attire, who passed out 'Pastels de Belem', a delicious tart, to be washed down with a glass of port. It became obvious that our host city was ready, to embrace our IWFS group of travelers and make us feel right at home, Lisbon style.



We also enjoyed a tour of the National Palace and Gardens of Queluz before the teaser of a short visit to the ever-popular *Sintra* – a longer visit is a must.

We were split into two smaller groups for the dinners which allowed us access to two of Lisbon's finest restaurants - *Eleven* and *Feitoria*. We enjoyed six-course meals at both. Eleven opened with a Foie-Gras Terrine "Gold Bar," to die for; the Pumpkin Cream with Lobster added further nuance to a fine meal. Feitoria led with "Bluefin tuna, caviar, daikon and smoked broth" and moved on to the outstanding "Algarve Scarlett Shrimp." There was much discussion over which dishes were most mouthwatering.

After two great days we bid farewell to the terra firma and charm of Lisbon. And off to Porto we went.

DOURO RIVER CRUISE 9-16 JUNE 2019



From Lisbon we drove 200 miles up the coast to Porto where we embarked on a most memorable cruise, on the *Queen Isabel*, along the Douro, a UNESCO World Heritage site. We experienced seven days of sumptuous dining, special trips to stunning vineyards (*Quinta da Roeda*), ancient cities (Salamanca and Guimaraes), tours of well known port houses (*Cockburn's*); even a bike tour of the city of Porto. We stretched our legs on a walking tour of Porto and were guided through a tour of the Mateus Palace.

One afternoon, a beginners' class in Portuguese was offered in the lounge. And every evening a new and different take on fine cuisine, created and delivered from the ship's kitchen by Chef Filipe and his amazing all-Portuguese service team. Night after night, after night; to our delight.



The Douro River offered incredible viewing each and every day. The vineyards were perched on the steepest wine-growing land some had ever seen, its vines rooted into the soil as if lives depended on them holding fast.

We enjoyed a medley of spirited wine commentary throughout our evenings on the *Queen Isabel*. The singular constant was the able, affable and accessible wine expert Richard Mayson, whose recently published book, *'Port and the Douro'* was gifted to all our shipmates. Richard was available daily on deck to point out important and distinctive landmarks, discuss wines of the region with anyone who wanted to learn, and to sign copies of his book.



On three evenings, local winemakers/owners made guest appearances. First, Luis Sequeira of *Taylor Fladgate*; next Rupert Symington of *Symington Family Estates*; and last but not least, Luis Seabra of his namesake winery. Each had a different but compelling story to tell, and the passion to tell it well. We were enchanted.



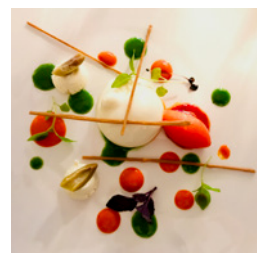
We will forever remember that the Portuguese are understandably proud of their country, passionate custodians of a wine region that is unlike any that many have ever seen. Well done, Portugal and of course to Stephen Hipple and his team for their impeccable organization once more!

BORDEAUX 4-8 APRIL 2019 (continued)

We visited 8 châteaux during the three days, tasting a wide selection of wines and vintages - from 1995 through to 2016, including the notable 2008, as well as first and second wines. Fabulous lunches were provided by *Château Haut-Bailly* and *Château Beychevelle*, carefully matched with their own wines. Dinners were at Michelin starred restaurants - *La Grand Maison* in Bordeaux city with chef Pierre Gagnaire; *Saint-James Hotel* with its magnificent views across the Garonne to the city of Bordeaux with chef Nicolas Magie; and at *Le Logis de la Cadene* in Saint Émilion with chef Alexandre Baumard.



We learnt a great deal about Bordeaux and its wine industry firstly from Jane Anson, who will deliver the André Simon lecture at next year's Americas festival in Paris and Bordeaux, and Caroline Matthews, a wine guide, writer and lecturer who accompanied us throughout the festival. She explained many of the quirks of the Bordeaux region and its wine trade, including its history, the differences in the classifications of Medoc and Saint Émilion and the requirement for agents to handle all wine sales. Walking tours of Bordeaux and Saint Émilion were also enjoyed by everyone.



Thanks to Stephanie Shepherd for her organisation and liaison with Caroline to ensure that we all had a great time and thanks also to all participants for their great company and friendship during the festival.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Sadly, I have to report that Nils Sternby, a past Chairman of the Society, passed away on the evening of June 26 at the age of 89. Nils was renowned around the world for his vast and extraordinary collection of fine wines. His philosophy was not the collecting, per se, but finding the proper occasions to enjoy and share his wines together with those likeminded. This generosity, aided by the extent of his cellar, often encouraged him to entertain his guests with a wine from the year of their birth or, conversely, for him to take a similar gift to his host or hostess.



It was de rigueur for Nils to serve wines blind and to encourage participation and learning, in a relaxed manner, from their identification.

From his early association with the Society in 1975, Nils was instrumental in the establishment of four Scandinavian branches, serving continuously as Chairman of Malmö Branch until 2007. He also served as the Europe Africa Zone's first Chairman from 1991 to 1997 and then as its Chairman Emeritus from 1997 to 2009. In 1995, he initiated the first of a most successful series of Great Weekends, continuing to this day to extend the benefits and experience of the Society beyond branch level to an ever-increasing number of members.



Nils Sternby

Nils became a member of the Society's International Council of Management in 1991, a role that he held until 2006. Following the untimely death of Chairman of Council, Lee Hambleton, early in 2005, Nils took over the role as Acting Chairman to complete Lee's term of office, then becoming Chairman in January 2006 until December of that year. He was the second of the Society's officers to be awarded the André Simon Gold medal twice in 1998 and 2006.

Andrew Jones Chairman,
International Council of Management (ICM)

NEWS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

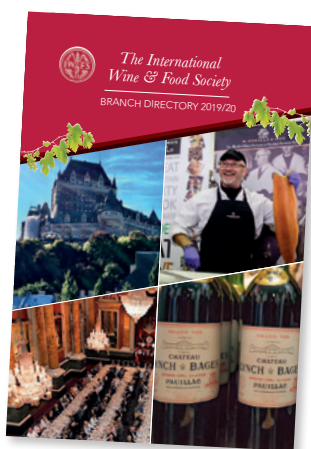
DIRECTORY OF BRANCH CONTACTS 2019/2020 OUT SOON

With the meeting of members reported on the front page this highlights the benefits of being a member of this special Society.

The 2019/2020 Directory of Branch Contacts will be mailed out to all members in the coming months so you will have your own updated list of people around the world who can give you that invaluable introduction to the best places to dine on your travels – and the opportunity to make new friends.

Watch out for your Directory which will be mailed, or delivered by your branch, to you soon, along with this year's monograph titled "Spices of the World" by Jill Norman.

Our latest monograph includes an A-Z of 42 spices - some you know and some you may not - with recommended uses for the spices such as sprinkling akudjura on salads instead of sun-dried tomato, or using grains of paradise, as an alternative to pepper, to add complexity to dishes.



IWFS International Council of Management (ICM)



CHAIRMAN:
Andrew Jones
(Cayman Islands & New York)



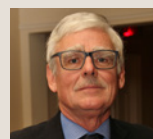
TREASURER:
Dwight Catherwood
(Los Angeles, USA)



**COUNCIL MEMBER & GLOBAL
BRANCH AMBASSADOR:**
Yvonne Wallis
(Victoria, Australia)



COUNCIL MEMBER:
Ian Nicol
(Blackpool & Fylde Coast, UK)



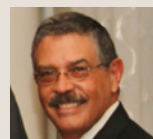
COUNCIL MEMBER:
John Nicholas
(Zurich, Switzerland)



COUNCIL MEMBER:
Mike Donohoe
(Houston & Santa Fe, USA)



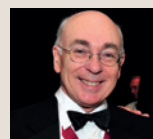
COUNCIL MEMBER:
James Lin
(Taipei, Taiwan ROC)



COUNCIL MEMBER:
Antonio Escudero-Viera
(Puerto Rico, USA)



HONORARY PRESIDENT:
Dave Felton
(Pasadena, USA)



SECRETARY:
Michael Messent
(Wessex, UK)



**INTERNATIONAL
SECRETARIAT:**
Andrea Warren
(London, UK)

ZONE NEWS



AMERICAS CHAIR: Mike Donohoe

The Lisbon/Douro cruise experience is now behind us, and what a splendid time we had. But move on we must, and the Charleston Great Weekend is just around the corner in October, with 130+ expected to attend. The Americas continues to focus on great events and building our membership. We have recently granted Permanent Charters to Boca Raton and Bucks County and have several encouraging opportunities in the pipeline. All is good.



ASIA PACIFIC CHAIR: James Lin

We were much saddened to hear in April of the passing of Warren Mason, the inaugural Secretary of APZ and inaugural President of the NSW branch. He was a great friend and supporter of IWFS and the Asia Pacific Zone. Shortly we will open three new branches in Japan: Edo (Tokyo), Nagoya, and Kyushu, giving us seven branches in Japan. Plus a fifth branch in Taiwan, Chungnan (Taichung). Well done everyone!



EUROPE AFRICA CHAIR: Ian Nicol

Following our successful event in Bordeaux, attention is turning to Valencia in October where our Members Forum and AGM are taking place. 60 members are booked on the Great Weekend combining exploring the old Spanish City with the modern waterfront and architecture, the local wines and cuisine - the true home of Paella. The serious business is looking to the future and discussing how we encourage new branches like Valencia.

HONORARY PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS



I enjoy the pleasure of serving on the Editorial Board of the IWFS America's quarterly wine magazine, Wine Food & Friends. In reviewing and proofing the recent dinner events and other activities of many of the Americas' branches, I was delighted to see a greater use of German Riesling wines in the event menus. I absolutely love the Riesling grape and the wine flavors it produces. Further, I believe that Rieslings pair majestically with many more cuisine ingredients than most other grapes. As you read this, I will be visiting Germany's Mosel Valley with Mitsuko and a few other IWFS friends. I promise to bring back and publish some recipes if you'll venture to taste more Rieslings!

Dave Felton Honorary President

UPCOMING FESTIVALS

EAZ GREAT WEEKEND • 18-20 SEPTEMBER 2020

CAMBRIDGE

EAZ is hosting a Great Weekend in the city of Cambridge (including its AGM and Members Forum) and includes dining in two of the University's historic Colleges – *Magdalene* and *Corpus Christi*. There will also be visits to *Ely Cathedral* (founded in 673) and the *National Stained Glass Museum* plus some free time for members to explore the historic Cathedral City.

For those wishing to stay on until the Monday, Walking Tours of the city will be arranged and you will dine at the iconic *University Arms Hotel* (founded in 1834) overlooking *Parker's Piece* in the evening. Their young Chef Director, Tristan Welch is making something of a name for himself. Locally sourced, his dishes are a reimagining of British Classics. Join us to discover what the critics are raving about. Watch this space for full details.



DATES

FOR YOUR DIARY



VALENCIA (SPAIN), 4-7 OCTOBER 2019

An EAZ Great Weekend plus our AGM and Members' Forum. All members are invited to experience the cultural and culinary delights of this coastal city port. There is now a wait list but full details available on the website. [Click here](#) to view.

CHARLESTON (USA), 16-20 OCTOBER 2019

One hundred and thirty members are booked into the newly opened Hotel Bennett for a Great Weekend and Americas AGM in Charleston, Condé Nast Travel's top tourist city in the USA. Tour of two historic houses. Tour of USS Yorktown and Fort Sumter. Gala dinner at Chef Michel Sichel's highly acclaimed new restaurant. [Click here](#) to read more. Open to all, in the event of cancellations. [Click here](#) to email.

PARIS & BORDEAUX (FRANCE), 16-25 APRIL 2020

Join the wait list to be part of this amazing event visiting some of the most exclusive venues in Paris including dining at Le Laurent and a private tour of Le Fondation Louis Vuitton; then in Bordeaux a stunning itinerary includes private tours and tastings of chateaux Mouton-Rothschild and Cheval Blanc. For more details [click here](#).

CAMBRIDGE (UK), 18-20 SEPTEMBER 2020

An EAZ Great Weekend (plus our AGM and Members' Forum). All members are invited to join us visiting this historic city, dining in two of the University's historic Colleges. We plan to spend a full day visiting Ely to explore the historic cathedral and the stained glass museum. See Upcoming Festivals to the left. Further details to follow.

MADEIRA (PORTUGAL), 2-8 NOVEMBER 2020

Join the EAZ to explore this historic island; 'the pearl of the Atlantic' and learn about its world famous wine, Madeira. You will stay in the capital Funchal and visit the major producers – Barbeito, Blandys, Henriques & Henriques, and D'Oliveiras. You will also have the opportunity to discover something of the local cuisine. This is a unique opportunity to discover Madeira wine in its home setting. Full details will be published shortly.

HONG KONG 10-13 NOVEMBER 2020

The Asia Pacific Zone is planning a wonderful festival in Hong Kong open to all members. There will be a pre-tour on the island of Macau from 8-9 November and a Gourmet HK post-tour from 15-16 November. Stay tuned for further details.

BUENOS AIRES & MENDOZA (ARGENTINA) OCTOBER 2021

The next Triennial International Festival will be held in South America's most sophisticated city and its most important wine region. Open to all members.

If you are interested in joining an event that is full, or reservations closed, then please contact the organiser in case space is available.



OUR IWFS BRANCHES 137 BRANCHES WORLDWIDE

AMERICAS (79)

CANADA

ALBERTA - Edmonton

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver
Victoria

ONTARIO

Kitchener-Waterloo
Niagara
Oakville
Toronto

QUEBEC - Montreal

CAYMAN ISLANDS

Cayman Islands

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Dominican Republic

MEXICO

Tecate
Tijuana

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ALABAMA - Birmingham

ALASKA - Anchorage

ARIZONA

Paradise Valley
Phoenix
Tucson

CALIFORNIA

Chula Vista
Coachella Valley
East Bay
Hollywood
La Jolla
Laguna Beach
Los Angeles
Marin County
Monterey Peninsula
Napa Valley
Orange County
Pasadena
Physicians Of Los Angeles
Rancho Santa Fe
Riverside
Sacramento-San Joaquin
San Fernando Valley
Santa Barbara
Southern California

FLORIDA

Boca Raton
Jacksonville
Miami
Naples
Palm Beach

GEORGIA - Atlanta

HAWAII - Honolulu

ILLINOIS - Chicago

INDIANA - Indianapolis

IOWA

Council Bluffs
Okoboji

LOUISIANA - New Orleans

MARYLAND - Baltimore

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston
Central Massachusetts

MINNESOTA

Minneapolis/St Paul
Rochester

MISSOURI - Kansas City

MONTANA - Bozeman

NEBRASKA

Greater Omaha
Norfolk

NEVADA

Lake Tahoe
Reno

NEW MEXICO - Santa Fe

NEW YORK

Buffalo
Hudson Valley
New York

OHIO - Cleveland

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma Central

PENNSYLVANIA

Bucks County
Philadelphia
York

PUERTO RICO - San Juan

SOUTH CAROLINA - Aiken

TENNESSEE - Memphis

TEXAS

Austin
Dallas
Fort Worth
Houston
Northeast Texas

WASHINGTON - Spokane

WASHINGTON DC

Washington DC

ASIA PACIFIC (33)

AUSTRALIA

Margaret River
New South Wales
Victoria
Western Australia

CHINA

Beijing City
Chaoyang District (Beijing)
Huangpu (Shanghai)
Shanghai

HONG KONG

Hong Kong

INDIA

Bombay
Delhi

INDONESIA - Jakarta

JAPAN

Jiyugaoka
Roppongi
Tokyo
Tokyo Bay

MALAYSIA

Ipoh
Kuala Lumpur
Penang

NEW ZEALAND - Auckland

PHILIPPINES

Cebu
Manila Ladies
Philippines

SINGAPORE - Singapore

SOUTH KOREA

Decanting Soul
Seoul

TAIWAN R.O.C.

Kaohsiung
Taichung
Taipei
Taiwan Belle

THAILAND

Bangkok
Phuket

VIETNAM - Saigon

EUROPE AFRICA (25)

ESTONIA - Tallinn

FINLAND - Helsinki

NORWAY - Oslo

RUSSIA - Moscow

SOUTH AFRICA - Cape Town

SPAIN - Valencia

SWITZERLAND - Zurich

UNITED KINGDOM

Bath & Bristol
Berkshire
Blackpool & Fylde Coast
Devonshire
Herefordshire & Monmouthshire
Leicester
Liverpool
London
St James's (London)
Manchester
Merseyside & Mid-Cheshire
Northampton
Surrey Hills
Sussex
Wessex
West Yorkshire

ZAMBIA - Lusaka

ZIMBABWE - Harare

For more information or
to contact a branch, visit

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special member benefits
or news about events
happening further afield.



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