

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JW MARRIOTT DESERT RIDGE RESORT & SPA ANNOUNCES
INTERACTIVE COOKING CLASS PACKAGES
Award-Winning Chefs Host Culinary Getaways for Cooks of All Levels

PHOENIX -- JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa, Arizona's largest luxury resort, is offering hands-on cooking class experiences led by the resort's award-winning culinary team.

An unforgettable getaway, this AAA Four Diamond resort is set on 316 acres of Sonoran desert where Phoenix meets Scottsdale.

The JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa cooking class experiences offer Valley visitors and residents the opportunity to learn from award-winning chefs while enjoying gourmet dining and luxury resort amenities.

The resort features the championship Wildfire Golf Club, tranquil Revive Spa, four acres of turquoise pools including a Lazy River and serpentine slide, lighted tennis courts and 10 dining experiences.

Exploring Tuscany

Join Chef de Cuisine Brian Archibald of AAA Four Diamond-rated Ristorante Tuscany for the two-day Exploring Tuscany cooking course and wine tasting.

Participants will visit the Phoenix Farmer's Market to select the freshest seasonal produce for developing a menu for their culinary experience.

Dinner and a wine tasting will be enjoyed at Ristorante Tuscany, which features a wood-

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5350 East Marriott Drive • Phoenix, AZ 85054
480-293-5000

1ST ADD COOKING PACKAGES

fired oven, indoor and outdoor fireplaces, patio seating and an extensive wine list including top vintages from Italy.

On day two, participants will experience a hands-on cooking class in Ristorante Tuscany's expansive exhibition kitchen to create their menu. Participants will receive a book of the recipes and a special gift from the chef.

Offered on March 29 to 30 and Nov. 15 to 16, the Exploring Tuscany cooking package rates start at \$799, including two night's accommodations, or \$450 for culinary activities only.

Spa Chef Series

Celebrate natural and organic ingredients with Spa Bistro Chef de Cuisine Brian Archibald. The focus of this interactive program will be on creating light, flavorful cuisine using seasonal, locally-grown ingredients.

On the first day of this two-day culinary experience, enjoy a tour of the Spa Bistro's on-site herb garden and a continental breakfast featuring exotic loose-leaf teas.

A yoga and fitness session will be presented before guests visit the Phoenix Farmer's Market to select ingredients and prepare a menu.

Lunch will be served at Spa Bistro and dinner will be enjoyed at AAA Four Diamond-rated Ristorante Tuscany, featuring modern Italian cuisine in an elegant setting.

On day two, guests will benefit from an invigorating Tai Chi and fitness session followed by breakfast in the Spa Bistro herb garden and the hands-on cooking class at the restaurant. Participants will receive a book of recipes and a special gift from the chef.

Offered April 12 to 13 and May 3 to 4, the Spa Chef Series cooking package rates start at \$729, including two night's accommodations, or \$450 for culinary activities only.

Golf, Brew and Grilling

The Grilling and Golf package offers the perfect way to bond with dad this summer.

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2ND ADD COOKING PACKAGES

After a lesson with a golf pro and round of golf at the championship Wildfire Golf Club, guests will enjoy an elegant dinner with wine pairings at the savory Meritage Steakhouse, featuring prime aged steaks, wild game and fresh seafood.

The second day will feature a continental breakfast at Meritage Steakhouse and an interactive barbecue and grilling class with Chef de Cuisine Marc Hennessy.

Chef Hennessy will demonstrate using marinades and spice rubs as well as making sausages and smoking meats. Participants will enjoy an all-American barbecue lunch paired with local beers. All guests will receive a book of recipes and a special gift from the chef.

Offered June 21 to 22 and August 16 to 17, the Grilling and Golf package rates start at \$639, including two night's accommodations, or \$450 for culinary activities only.

Native Southwest Cooking

Learn about Southwest culture, art and seasonal cooking with Blue Sage Chef de Cuisine Sam Murillo.

This culinary-filled weekend includes daily breakfast at Blue Sage, featuring a spirited menu of contemporary favorites and regional cuisine; native seed search and art shop visits; lunch and margarita-making demonstration at Blue Sage and a presentation by the Toca Indian tribe about native Southwest ingredients.

Participants will plan the next day's menu with Chef Murillo and then enjoy a Mexican dinner and tequila tasting at Blue Sage's outdoor patio.

Day two features a hands-on cooking class, including preparation of Southwestern specialty beverages, and lunch at Blue Sage.

Offered Sept. 13 to 14 and Oct. 11 to 12, the Native Southwest Cooking package rates start at \$659, including two night's accommodations, or \$450 for culinary activities only.

3RD ADD COOKING PACKAGES

Sweet Holiday Traditions

Do the holidays bring you visions of sugarplums? Join award-winning Executive Pastry Chef Kaushik Chowdhury to create tasty and memorable holiday treats.

This dessert-lover's dream weekend includes daily breakfast and lunch. Participants will bake and decorate gingerbread houses, festive holiday cookies, delectable cakes and other desserts in Ristorante Tuscany's expansive exhibition kitchen.

Dinner and a wine tasting are included at AAA Four Diamond-rated Ristorante Tuscany, featuring modern Italian cuisine in an elegant setting. Participants will receive a book of recipes and a special gift from the chef.

Offered Nov. 29 to 30 and Dec. 20 to 21, the Sweet Holiday Traditions package rates start at \$669, including two night's accommodations, or \$450 for culinary activities only.

Participation is limited and reservations are required by calling 800-835-6206.

The largest luxury resort in Arizona features 950 guestrooms (including 81 suites), 240,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting space, 10 dining experiences, Marriott's first Revive Spa -- a 28,000-square-foot facility -- eight tennis courts and four acres of elaborately landscaped pools including the Lazy River with serpentine slide, two championship golf courses and Wildfire Golf Club. JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa is located where Phoenix meets Scottsdale, just 20 minutes north of Sky Harbor International Airport, with easy access to the Loop 101 freeway.

For more information about JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa located at 5350 E. Marriott Drive in Phoenix, call 480-293-5000, toll free at 800-835-6206 or visit www.jwdesertridgeresort.com.