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ALLEGIAN'S GUIDE TO THE BEST PLACES UNDER THE SUN | WEST COAST EDITION | JULY/AUG 2011



ZUMANITY

THE SENSUAL SIDE OF CIRQUE DU SOLEIL

DOLPHIN TRAINING FOR A DAY

CELINE DION SIMPLY STUNNING

LAKE LAS VEGAS SUMMER FUN

CAVE CREEK REGIONAL PARK

FROM THE FARM TO YOUR FORK



Joe Johnston/Phoenix

PHOENIX RESTAURANTS EMBRACE LOCAL PRODUCTS

by Matt Seli

Located in the heart of the Sonoran Desert, Phoenix and the other towns that make up the Greater Metropolitan Phoenix Area aren't usually thought of as agricultural hotspots. The desert soil is full of nutrients, however, and farming here has been a way of life for thousands of years. To serve customers the best dishes while also supporting local agriculture, Phoenix-area restaurants and their chefs have been shopping in their own backyard. Here are a few can't-miss restaurants that are using truly local and farm-fresh ingredients:



Kai Fieri



Quiescence

KAI

As the only AAA Five Diamond and Forbes Five Star award-winning restaurant in the state of Arizona, Kai is truly a special place to enjoy a spectacular meal. Located within the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort in Chandler, Kai goes above and beyond to bring its guests a unique dining experience. The cuisine here is described as "Native American with Global Accents," and uses many locally-sourced products in its dishes.

JOE'S FARM GRILL

Recently featured on Food Network's "Diners, Drive-ins, and Dives" with Guy Fieri, this restaurant prides itself on "doing common food uncommonly well and served quickly." Created by Joe Johnston in the farm house that he grew up in as a child in Gilbert, this restaurant serves such favorites as burgers, pizzas and salads. Joe's Farm Grill prides itself on emphasizing the use of local products and much of the produce that is used can be traced to the Johnston farm itself. If a product is unavailable, the restaurant looks to other local farmers across the state. Joe's Farm Grill is located at 3000 E. Ray Rd. in Gilbert and is open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

QUIESCENCE

Located on the historic Farm at South Mountain property in Phoenix, this restaurant is truly reliant on local farmers, as its menu changes daily based on what is available. Rated a AAA Four Diamond restaurant, Quiescence and its contemporary American cuisine has also been called "the best restaurant in Phoenix" by Phoenix Magazine. Maya's Farm, located just yards from the restaurant, frequently dictates what will be on that day's menu. The restaurant, located at 6106 S. 32nd St., also boasts an extensive wine list of which contains many Arizona-grown selections.

Photos courtesy of Kai, Joe's Farm Grill and Quiescence



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