



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Foam and Fun on Tap for Spec's Second Annual BrewMasters International Beer Festival at Moody Gardens**

**--Event space doubles and 100 more beers added to meet beer-busting demand--**

**GALVESTON, TX** (May 17, 2011)...Pour a cold one and hoist your mug Labor Day weekend September 2 to 5 when Moody Gardens hosts the second annual **BrewMasters International Beer Festival, presented by Spec's Wines, Spirits and Finer Foods!** This beer-lovers paradise features 400 craft and specialty brews, and hard to source brews not readily available to the Texas consumer. Doubling the size of last year's inaugural event, more than 14,000 are expected to attend this holiday weekend foam fest honoring true Americana.

The four-day celebration will showcase three signature events: the **BrewTopia Beer Garden**, the **Brew HaHa Grand Tastings**, and **BrewLicious in the Ballroom**. Activities showcased include a new kids zone, live music, beer and food pairing seminars and dinners featuring renowned chefs, educational events, and award-winning brewmasters including those from Samuel Adams and Boulevard Brewing, just to name a few.

"This year's BrewMasters is bigger and better," said Clifton McDerby, event producer and principal of Food & Vine Time Productions. "We started as the largest beer festival in the state and we plan to give Texans even more. We are doubling our event space, have increased our beer selections from 300 to 400, and are finalizing details to bring in some of the nation's top brewmasters," he said.

Festivities begin Friday, September 2 with the 4 p.m. opening of the **BrewTopia Beer Garden**. The family-friendly area under the sun includes a new Crazy Kids Fun Zone, live music, food and of course beer! Vendors from all over Texas and beyond will help transform Moody Gardens' Oleander Bowl into a genuine old-country beer garden. Entry to the BrewTopia Beer Garden is free, although the donation of canned goods or spare change is encouraged with contributions going to benefit the Galveston County Food Bank. BrewTopia will be open from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, September 2 and noon to 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, September 3 and 4.

Also on tap Friday, September 2 is **BrewLicious in the Ballroom**. Located at the Moody Gardens Hotel's Francis Anne Moody Ballroom, this spectacular evening for suds sippers is for the serious beer and culinary enthusiast. BrewLicious in the Ballroom will feature renowned chefs showcasing unique food and beer pairing samples. BrewLicious in the Ballroom will run from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and tickets to the event are \$75, with a VIP Premium Room upgrade ticket for \$100.

Saturday and Sunday afternoons, September 3 and 4, sample some of the best of brews at the **Brew HaHa Grand Tasting** held in the Moody Gardens Expo Arena, featuring over 400 craft and specialty brews and more than 30 wines. Admission to Brew HaHa is \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door, \$75 for a VIP ticket, or guests can purchase a VIP or general admission two-day Hopper Pass. The Brew HaHa Grand Tasting will run from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and includes access to multiple beer seminars and Spec's University, a fun and educational experience for all who take pride in their beer.

Foodies, take note! Saturday and Sunday activities include a Burgers, Brats and Brew buffet luncheon, a casual dining experience open to families interested in the thrill of the grill, and Moody Gardens Hotel will host a South of the Border Beer Brunch on Sunday. Also enjoy numerous beer seminars and dinners on tap all weekend, plus a Friday night pub crawl along The Strand, with more events to be held throughout the weekend to be announced.

**Your spare change can make a change.** Change collection stations will be available throughout the festival to help boost donations to the Galveston County Food Bank. Canned goods will also be accepted.

Moody Gardens Hotel is offering a special BrewMasters package for the festival weekend. To book a hotel package, visit [www.moodygardenshotel.com](http://www.moodygardenshotel.com) or call 888-388-8484. For additional hotel reservation options, visit [www.galveston.com](http://www.galveston.com).

Brewmasters International Beer Festival is presented by Spec's Wine, Spirits and Finer Foods. Additional sponsors include Moody Gardens Hotel and Conference Center, Alex Rodriguez Mercedes, Galveston Convention and Visitors Bureau, AT&T, Coca-Cola, and 106.9 The Zone.

Prior to the Labor Day Weekend fun, **Red Hot Block Parties** will take place in and around Houston leading up to the largest beer festival in Texas. The block parties will feature craft beers, wine tastings, concessions, live music, interactive activities, BrewMasters Merchandise, and of course all the info you could want to know about BrewMasters International Beer Festival. Confirmed Red Hot Block Parties include July 23 at Sugar Land Town Square and August 6 at La Torretta Lake Resort and Spa in Montgomery.

For more information on the BrewMasters International Beer Festival, visit [www.brewmastersbeerfest.com](http://www.brewmastersbeerfest.com) or call 713-557-5732. Become a fan on Facebook to receive important updates on BrewMasters International Beer Festival events and details.

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