

Flavours & friends combine

MATTHEW PADDICK

Carnarvon is set to transform into little Europe for the Gascoyne Food Festival's long table lunch, thanks to three chefs and their connection to the Mediterranean.

On Saturday, August 3, local produce from the Gascoyne will be used to create a feast under the skies of one of the area's banana plantations, under the watch of content creator Jenna Holmes.

Known as "Pasta Mama", Ms Holmes is highly regarded for her ability to get the best out of local produce and has taken inspiration from Europe to form her cooking style. She said the lunch would be an experience.

"This long table lunch is more than just a meal; it's an epicurean affair where guests are encouraged to embrace the chaos and connection of dining together," Ms Holmes said.

"The event promises an immersive sensory experience, blending vibrant flavours with the lively company of friends, set against the picturesque backdrop of a working banana plantation.

"We're excited to showcase the real Carnarvon and the incredible producers behind the food."

Alongside her will be the sibling duo of Daniela and Attilio Maiorano.

The pair settled in Australia after undertaking different journeys to become chefs, but both were inspired by their Italian heritage to create food.

Daniela learned to cook from her nonna in the family restaurant and has a variety of experience as head chef of a number of restaurants on the east coast.

The Maioranos and Ms Holmes are set to use their knowledge and apply them to the local produce, including a slow-cooked ragu and a banana-inspired dessert, while seafood will also form a strong part of the lunch.

Gascoyne Food Council chair Chris Hingham said the aim was to highlight the produce from the area.

"The Gascoyne Food Festival celebrates the wonderful producers, growers, pastoralists and sea mongers who work tirelessly to put food on our tables," Mr Hingham said. "We know this event will put our food producers in the spotlight, and when attendees go home to their own communities, they'll share the amazing news of what we have to offer in the Gascoyne region."

Tickets to the long lunch are available at the Gascoyne Food Festival website.



Attendees at the Gascoyne Food Festival. Picture: Shire of Carnarvon



Jenna Holmes.



Daniela Maiorano. Picture: Jess Kearney



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