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The *Southern Breeze* Wine + Culinary Festival brings the “Good Life on the Gulf Coast” to Santa Rosa Beach, Fla. September 12-14, 2008.

Gulf Shores, Ala. April 9, 2008—The *Southern Breeze* Wine + Culinary Festival returns to **Beaches of South Walton** during its fifth anniversary **September 12-14, 2008**. This three-day event travels across the Gulf Coast states educating and entertaining guests with wine dinners, wine tastings, seminars, and a walkabout brunch. The weekend-long festival brings locals as well as travelers from all over the United States to the nation’s most illustrious beaches to celebrate food, wine, and coastal culture. This year, the festival teams up with industry-leading appliance manufacturer **DCS by Fisher & Paykel** and **Gulf Place** to bring the festival to Santa Rosa Beach, Fl .

The *Southern Breeze* Wine + Culinary Festival joins **Autumn Tides** September 12-14, 2008 at the Gulf Place Amphitheater in the beautiful beaches of South Walton. This festival is an Autumn Tides featured event. Autumn Tides is a season of unforgettable fall events celebrating the art, nature, culture, and cuisine of Beaches of South Walton. With the luxurious mansions along the shore to the quaint bed and breakfasts to animated beach cottages, this area becomes a home away from home for anyone who steps onto its shores.

Experience the ultimate pairing at one of the Friday night **Wine Dinners** as a top regional Gulf Coast chef prepares a five-course gourmet affair carefully paired with five elegant wines from a renowned winemaker. Throughout each course, guests are educated about these delectable, complementary pairings that bring out the fine, distinct flavors in each culinary delicacy.

On Saturday, watch local chefs heat things up as they go head-to-head at the ***Southern Breeze* Gulf Coast Chef Challenge**. Local chefs will compete at the judged event to be Northwest Florida's top chef. The winner of the competition will go on to compete in the finals later in the year. The competition begins at 11:30 AM and is open to the public. Awards will be presented at 1:00 PM prior to the **Grand Wine Tasting**. Sample up to 200 noted wines from around the world during Saturday's Grand Wine Tasting. Savor distinctive wines not readily available in stores from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Gulf Place Amphitheater. Guests can sample a variety of hard-to-find wines, learn cooking techniques during cooking seminars, and become more familiar with unique wines during

our seminars. Saturday's Grand Wine Tasting is the perfect setting for discovering new wines, enjoying live music, and meeting new friends during a one-of-a-kind weekend event. Get ready to learn the secrets of one of the country's most celebrated chefs. Award-winning chef Tim Creehan will delight your senses with his live cooking demonstrations in our DCS by Fisher & Paykel Theater. Come join Chef Creehan to learn expert cooking techniques for his delicious recipes. And swirl, sniff, and sip with Michael Bryan, Executive Director of the Atlanta Wine School, as you explore boutique wines at our informative wine seminars.

On Sunday, enjoy the **Walkabout Brunch** from 10:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., at the Gulf Place Amphitheater. Take pleasure in the beautiful scenery of the Beaches of South Walton and sample specialties from local restaurants as wine experts pour champagnes and sparkling wines to compliment each delicacy. Guests will also have the opportunity to vote for their favorite restaurant in the "People's Choice" culinary competition.

“We are committed to bringing the good life to the Gulf Coast. This festival is a chance for the community to showcase their talents and the richness of the area,” says **Mark A. Newman** editor of *Southern Breeze* magazine. “Come help celebrate with us.”

The ***Southern Breeze Wine + Culinary Festival*** is a three day event that blends premium wines, food, and Gulf Coast culture into an entertaining, educational, and exciting weekend-long event. This year marks the fifth season of the Festival with stops in **Biloxi, Mississippi; Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Orange Beach, Alabama; and Santa Rosa Beach, Florida**. For more information, visit www.southernbreeze.com/winefest or contact Karen Kirkland Ochoa at 800-239-9880 or kareno@compassbiz.com.

Southern Breeze magazine is published by Compass Marketing, Inc. based in Gulf Shores Ala. The quarterly upscale lifestyle magazine covers the Gulf Coast region from Louisiana through Northwest Florida. Each issue highlights the unique lifestyle, travel, culture, people, food and entertainment that make the region a wonderful place to live and visit. www.southernbreeze.com.

Compass Marketing, Inc. is a multi-functional marketing and publishing company serving clients in the travel and tourism industry throughout the Southeast. Compass is a leader in the field of tourism marketing and currently publishes more than 20 custom travel related publications. These publications and projects are created in the form of state, regional, local guides, vacation planners, newspaper and magazine inserts, interactive guides, special events, and other integrated programs.