

Naples Winter Wine Festival auction lots offer top-of-the-line experiences

The Naples Winter Wine Festival has unveiled its second round of live auction lot items up for bid during the 2020 festival from Jan. 24-26 at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples. This year's festival co-chairs have gone above and beyond to provide some impressive lot items, such as a 2020 Aston Martin DBS Superleggera Volante, attending the premiere of the 25th James Bond movie in London, embarking on a 14-day excursion in India and witnessing Switzerland's thrilling White Turf races.

In honor of the festival's 20-year legacy in both the Naples and wine communities, this year's auction items will offer once-in-a-lifetime experiences to bidders in order to raise funds for the Naples Children & Education Foundation's strategic initiatives and annual grants. These grants and initiatives focus on significantly improving the lives of underprivileged and at-risk children in Collier County.

"We're so thankful that our supporters are able to cultivate such remarkable and unique auction lot items; our partners have been so generous for the 20th anniversary of the Naples Winter Wine Festival," said Barbie Hills, 2020 NWWF co-chair.

Auction lot highlights include:

■ **The James Bond Aston Martin Experience** — One couple will win a 2020 Aston Martin DBS Superleggera Volante with white stone exterior and obsidian black leather interior, and two tickets to the premiere of the 25th installment of the James Bond series, "No Time to Die," in London in April 2020. The couple will get access to the premiere after-party, where they'll mingle with former Bond actors. The couple will also receive a two-night stay in a Mews Suite at The Stafford in London and an opportunity to visit the Aston Martin headquarters.

■ **Napa Valley's Villa Sorriso with Château Pontet-Canet and Pym-Rae** — One winner will receive a 1982, 2000 and 2010 3-liter bottle of Château Pontet-Canet and two 750ml bottles of the inaugural 2016 Pym-Rae to enjoy with two additional couples during a two-night stay at Villa Sorriso on the Pym-Rae estate in Napa Valley. Nestled atop Mount Veeder, this ranch encompasses approximately 653 acres and boasts a 20,000-square-foot residence built by Robin Williams, a tennis court, hiking and riding trails and a 65-foot infinity pool. Couples will also have a choice between lunch and dinner at the estate, and a private tour and tasting at the Pym-Rae estate.



■ **Celebrating 20 Years with Gargiulo Vineyards** — Celebrate 20 years of the NWWF and Gargiulo Vineyards with a special three-city experience in Naples; Nashville, Tennessee; and Napa, California. Also receive six 3-liter 2017 Gargiulo Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon

and six 1.5-liter 2019 Gargiulo Vineyards 20th anniversary commemorative cabernet. The winner will host a 24-person dinner paired with a Gargiulo Vineyards wine tasting at Richard D'Amico's new restaurant in Naples, and then fly privately to Nashville for three nights with Valerie Boyd and Jeff Gargiulo, visiting the city's best venues, restaurants and museums. Jeff and friends will then host a jam session to record a song at ASCAP before flying the two couples first class to San Francisco for four nights at the North Block Hotel in Yountville, to experience harvest celebration week in Napa at the Gargiulo Vineyards Harvest party, "Oakville Sessions" in October.

■ **Explore Hawaii at the Cuvée Hualalai Big Island Villa** — Ten guests will spend five nights at Cuvée's 6,300-square-foot Hualalai Big Island Villa for gourmet dining, luxury accommodations and breathtaking landscapes. The experience includes a helicopter ride over the Kilauea volcano, a guided hike to the Pololū Valley, a catamaran adventure to swim with dolphins, a classic Hawaiian evening with lei making, hula dancing, sushi making, a sake tasting and more.



■ **14-day Tour of Historic India** — Two couples will spend 14 days in India in November 2020, where they will travel to New Delhi, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Ranthambore, Jaipur and Agra. Couples will have the chance to ride camels in Jaisalmer, embark on a guided tiger safari in Ranthambore and ride elephants in Jaipur while relaxing with massage treatments, delicious meals and curated cocktails at the homes of the Maharaja of Udaipur and Jodhpur. The winning duo will also have the option to renew their wedding vows, view historic pieces of jewelry, iconic landscapes and experience Diwali, the most prominent Indian festival.



■ **Taste of France with Krug Champagne** — Explore Reims, Cognac and Paris with a four-night trip to France with Krug. The journey will begin in Reims where the couples will spend two nights at the Relais & Châteaux L'Assiette Champenoise, and receive a private tour of the Clos du Mesnil and Clos d'Ambonnay vineyards, dinner at the Michelin-starred L'Assiette Champenoise and a special "Journey in the Krug Universe" tasting. The couples will then spend a night at the Château de Bagnole in Cognac where they'll receive private tastings of Hennessy Paradis Impérial and old and new eaux-



de-vie, and tours of the Founder's Cellar, Paradis Cellar and Hennessy distillery. The experience will end in Paris with one night at the world-renowned Four Seasons George V and dinner at a Three Star Michelin restaurant, with a special Krug and Hennessy experience. First class train tickets from Paris or nearby airport to Reims, Reims to Cognac and Cognac to Paris are included.



■ **Los Angeles TV Tour with Senses** — Fans of "SEAL Team" and "Judge Judy" can win a two-part trip to California, where they'll spend five days with the cast and crew of both shows and dine with Senses co-founders Christopher Strieter, actor Max Thieriot and former NAVY Seal Mark Owen at the iconic Spago Beverly Hills. Winners will receive one night at Sonoma's Farmhouse Inn for a special tour, tasting and five-course menu with Strieter at Valette in Healdsburg. The winner will also take home one etched 3-liter 2017 Senses Oakville Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, two 1.5-liter 2016 Senses Oakville Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon and 13 magnums of mixed vintages of the best Senses Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays. Each person will also receive a "SEAL Team" pilot script signed by the cast and signed copies of "No Hero" and "No Easy Day" by Mark Owen.

■ **Pheasant Shooting with Humphrey Butler** — Eight guests will embark on a six-day high-driven pheasant shooting experience with NWWF auctioneer Humphrey Butler in Shropshire, UK in November 2020. The winner and their guests will spend five nights in ensuite rooms at Downton Hall with a private chef and access to three local estates — Gatley Park, Downton Hall and Stanage Castle in Wales — for full days of shooting. The group will also receive Élevée Fine Clothing custom-designed field jackets crafted from cloth from legendary fabric mill Loro. Private airfare from New York to the UK is included.

■ **White Turf Races in Switzerland** — Two couples will spend one week in Switzerland for the White Turf races and ride on the Glacier Express in February 2021. The itinerary will begin in Zurich, where the couple will spend three nights in Junior Suites in the Kulm Hotel, enjoy a private helicopter sight-

seeing flight and VIP access to White Turf, the exclusive event filled with horse racing, gourmet catering, lively music and inspiring art exhibitions. The couple will then travel to Zermatt in the first class cabin of the Glacier Express train from Piz Bernina to the Matterhorn, where they will spend three nights in Alpine Junior Suites at the Mont Cervin Palace with a view of the Matterhorn. The couple will experience privately guided excursions to Matterhorn Glacier Paradise, a VIP gondola ride between Trockener Steg and Zermatt, a private skiing session on the Matterhorn and then travel to Baur au Lac for one night for a private chocolate-making workshop at Lindt Chocolateria.



■ **TCS World Travel - Southern Africa: Wine and Wildlife Itinerary** — Two people will enjoy an 18-day journey in Southern Africa, beginning at the Cape Grace Hotel in Cape Town. They will then enjoy two days of wine tasting in the Cape Winelands and then travel to Sossusvlei, Namibia, where they will spend three nights at the &Beyond Sossusvlei Desert Lodge and Little Kulala Camp to view immense sand dunes, endemic wildlife and stunning landscape. Next, they'll fly to Zimbabwe for a two-night stay at the Stanley & Livingstone Boutique Hotel to view the majestic Victoria Falls and then go to Zambia's South Luangwa National Park for a safari and two-night stay at the Mfuwe Lodge. The winners will then visit the Diamonds Mequfi Beach Resort and relax on white-sand beaches at Pemba, Mozambique, before spending two nights at Lion Sands River Lodge in Kruger National Park, South Africa. The epic trip will end in Hermanus, South Africa, where the couple will stay and visit Grootbos Private Nature Reserves to see thousand-year-old forests and a wide range of marine life. The trip includes travel on a privately chartered jet, first-class accommodations, ground transportation and all activities and guides.

Since NCEF was founded in 2001, the foundation has worked to improve the health and education of children in Southwest Florida, especially through funding raised during the festival's live auction. By partnering with key members of the community, NCEF ensures that the money raised addresses Collier County's most pressing needs. From oral care to after-school programming, NCEF's ultimate goal is to bridge the gaps in resources and funding for local organizations.

Ticket packages to NWWF start at \$12,500 per couple. A \$30,000 package that includes reserved seating for a party of four at a Vintner Dinner and under the auction tent is also available. To inquire about tickets, contact Barrett Farmer at barrett@napleswinefestival.com or 239-514-2239. For more information on the 2020 NWWF, visit www.napleswinefestival.com. ■