



TROPICANA LAS VEGAS TO HOST 13TH ANNUAL MILITARY CULINARY COMPETITION WITH CELEBRITY CHEF ROBERT IRVINE ON NOV. 12

Military Hospitality Alliance showcases special Armed Forces culinary competition event in Las Vegas this Veterans Day weekend

[Tweet It:](#) .@TropLV to host #MilitaryCulinaryCompetitionLV with @RobertIrvine on Nov. 12. Visit www.troplv.com for details!

LAS VEGAS (October 7, 2016) – Tropicana Las Vegas is teaming up with the Military Hospitality Alliance to host the 13th annual Military Culinary Competition on Saturday, Nov. 12. The culinary event will make its debut in Las Vegas this Veterans Day weekend and will be hosted by Tropicana Las Vegas' newest chef, Robert Irvine.

"We are honored to be a part of such an incredible event alongside our newest restaurant partner, Chef Robert Irvine," said Aaron Rosenthal, General Manager of Tropicana Las Vegas. "We're thrilled to host the annual Military Culinary Competition here in Las Vegas, and create unique opportunities for our guests and locals alike to experience a premiere culinary affair, while also paying tribute to those who have fought and served for our country."

Over 50 active duty military from across the world will face off during the ultimate food fight for the title of Armed Forces Culinary Grand Champions. The military chefs will work in fifteen teams of four, bringing together military members from all branches of the Armed Forces during this hand-to-pan competition. Co-sponsored by the Veteran's Support Network, the teams will cook their way through the day-long event for prizes, pride and more.

"Las Vegas is continuing to thrive as a top culinary destination, and I am excited to host this one-of-a-kind culinary competition at the Tropicana Las Vegas," said Irvine. "As a former member of the British Royal Navy, I am looking forward to seeing the top culinary talent among the military branches come together in celebration of Veterans Day weekend."

To complement the culinary competition, Chef Robert Irvine will host a special meet and greet from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Guests are invited to mix and mingle with the celebrity chef. Chef Irvine will be signing copies of his newest book, *Fit Fuel: A Chef's Guide to Eating Well, Getting Fit, and Living Your Best Life*. The book will be available for purchase for \$29.99 at the event.

The Military Culinary Competition will take place inside the Trinidad Pavilion from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Entry to the event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will also be available for purchase.

In addition, Beach Café at Tropicana Las Vegas will host a Veterans Day Lunch Buffet priced at \$24.95 per person, available Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, visit www.mha1.net or www.troplv.com.

About Tropicana Las Vegas

Prepare to be surprised. Tropicana Las Vegas – a DoubleTree by Hilton is a Penn National Gaming resort located on the south end of the Las Vegas Strip just minutes from the airport, major convention centers and top entertainment stadiums. The resort redefines the expectations of today's global travelers with a recently completed \$200 million transformation that provides a casually elegant experience on the Las Vegas Strip. With a unique South Beach vibe, the resort features all-new rooms, suites and luxury villas that evoke the sentiment of a breezy beach house or penthouse in Miami, a fresh redesign of the 50,000-square-foot casino, several award-winning restaurants, and Glow®, a Mandara Spa and fitness center. First-class entertainment includes the world-famous Laugh Factory Comedy Club, Cherry Boom Boom, a new exciting revue set to open in September, and Band of Magicians premiering in October.

About Penn National Gaming

Penn National Gaming owns, operates or has ownership interests in gaming and racing facilities and video gaming terminal operations with a focus on slot machine entertainment. At March 31, 2016, the Company operated twenty-seven facilities in seventeen jurisdictions, including Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, West Virginia, and Ontario. At March 31, 2016, in aggregate, Penn National Gaming operated approximately 33,400 gaming machines, 800 table games and 4,600 hotel rooms.

About Military Hospitality Alliance (MHA) and Veteran's Support Network (VSN)

Formed in 2003 to support military foodservice personnel with education and post-military employment, MHA also sponsors the Enlisted Aide of the Year Award, with the 14th event on November 15th in Washington DC as part of the USO Salute to Military Chefs. The Veteran's Support Network is a C3 charity which provides training and certifications at no cost for homeless veterans, and this year has partnered with MHA to host and provide funding for its competitions. For information contact Ed Manley at 702-292-7988 or hq@vetsupportnetwork.org.

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