

PRESS RELEASE

21 April 2017

Sodexo celebrates five years with LitFest

l/r Margot Slattery, country president, Sodexo Ireland, Litfest co-founder Darina Allen and Julianne Forrestal, executive chef, at the Dublin launch of LitFest 17.

Sodexo Ireland is celebrating five years as a sponsor of the world-renowned Ballymaloe LitFest in Cork. Margot Slattery, country president and Julianne Forrestal, executive chef, were guests at the Dublin launch on Tues 11th April at O'Connell's Restaurant in Donnybrook, Dublin.

The Ballymaloe LitFest has been rated one of the best festivals in the world to visit in 2017 by Conde Nast Traveller. The co-founders, sister and brother team Darina Allen and Rory O'Connell of Ballymaloe Cookery School, welcomed a full house of culinary fans, chefs, food and drinks writers, policy makers, media and all-round lovers of food to celebrate the launch.

This year, at LitFest, Sodexo has arranged for Dorcas Barry, a nutritional consultant, healthy cookery teacher and meditation coach, to give some morning classes on healthy eating and meditation, designed to fuel the body and soul and make the most of the festival experience. Sodexo has worked with Dorcas Barry for many years; she has collaborated with the culinary team in the development of healthy, vegetarian, vegan and raw recipes with the important emphasis on taste, alongside a programme of healthy eating demonstrations on client sites.

Margot Slattery said, *"We've been a supporter of the Ballymaloe LitFest since its inception five years ago and we're so pleased and delighted to be involved once again in 2017. It's a unique and fascinating festival held in beautiful surroundings and the speaker lineup every year is always of world-class calibre, a glorious mix of established and emerging talent."*

As in previous years, LitFest will be welcoming the experts – award-winning food writers, famous chefs, food and environmental activists, avant-garde farmers big and small, food filmmakers and photographers, soil experts and bee-keepers, wine makers, distillers and brewers, and policy makers.

Ballymaloe LitFest runs from Friday 19th to Sunday 21st May 2017 at Ballymaloe, Shanagarry. Cork.
www.litfest.ie

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About Sodexo

Sodexo in the UK and Ireland

Sodexo employs around 34,000 people, and delivers services that improve the quality of life to clients at some 1,850 locations in the corporate, healthcare, education, leisure, justice and defence sectors.

With an annual turnover of more than £1.6bn, Sodexo delivers a range of services ranging from catering, cleaning, reception to asset management, security, laboratory and grounds maintenance services, enabling clients to focus on their core business.

Sodexo Benefits and Rewards Services in the UK provides benefit and reward services such as SayShopping vouchers; public benefits; and employee benefits such as childcare vouchers and engagement surveys.

About Sodexo

Founded in 1966 by Pierre Bellon, Sodexo is the global leader in services that improve Quality of Life, an essential factor in individual and organizational performance. Operating in 80 countries, Sodexo serves 75 million consumers each day through its unique combination of On-site Services, Benefits and Rewards Services and Personal and Home Services.

Through its more than 100 services, Sodexo provides clients an integrated offering developed over 50 years of experience: from food services, reception, safety, maintenance and cleaning, to facilities and equipment management; from Meal Pass, Gift Pass and Mobility Pass benefits for employees to in-home assistance, child care centers and concierge services. Sodexo's success and performance are founded on its independence, its sustainable business and financial model and its ability to continuously develop and to engage the commitment of its 425,000 employees throughout the world. Sodexo is a member of the CAC 40 and DJSI Indices.

Key figures (as of August 31, 2016)

20.2 billion euro in consolidated revenues

425,000 employees

19th largest employer worldwide

80 countries

75 million consumers served daily

16.6 billion euro market capitalization (as of January 11, 2017)