

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEADING

Get ready for the Calamari Festival in St Francis Bay

SUB-HEADING

St Francis Tourism

Kouga – Get your taste buds ready and mark your calendars for the most exciting event of the year.

St Francis Bay is gearing up to become the "Calamari Capital of South Africa" with the launch of the Calamari Festival and the Calamari Route from Friday, 20 September 2024 to Saturday, 28 September 2024. This nine-day extravaganza is all about bringing the village together to celebrate our rich heritage, support local businesses and of course, indulge in some of the best calamari dishes you'll ever taste.

Festival highlights

Culinary Journey: Embark on a culinary adventure with the Tops Calamari Wine Tasting, where you can sip on exquisite wines from 22 top wine farms.

Furthermore, discover the best calamari dishes at local restaurants with the Calamari Route Launch.

Don't miss the chance to watch and taste as local foodies compete to create the ultimate calamari dish in the Calamari Cook Off with Justin Bonello. Throughout the festival, enjoy a variety of calamari tastings and cooking demonstrations, making it a true feast for the senses.

Celebrating our Heritage: Celebrate the rich cultural heritage of St Francis at the Arts and Crafts Show, which showcases the incredible work of local artists. Their creations reflect the vibrant history and traditions of the area, offering a unique glimpse into the community's artistic soul.

Entertainment: Experience the lively atmosphere of the festival with live music performances and vibrant markets filled with local crafts and goodies. There

are plenty of activities and entertainment for children, making it a fun outing for the whole family.

Sports: Get your adrenaline pumping with a variety of sports competitions and activities, including the Calamari Classic Golf, Bowls, Family Fishing, Pam Golding Surfski Dice, Calamari Half Marathon, and Port Eco Dive. Whether you are a participant or a spectator, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Kouga Executive Mayor, Hattingh Bornman shares his excitement about the upcoming event, stating, "The Calamari Festival is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our unique heritage and bring guests from all over the country to our beautiful area.

"It is an event that not only celebrates our history, but also supports local businesses and promotes sustainable practices. This festival is a chance for us to highlight the rich cultural tapestry of St Francis Bay, from our delicious cuisine and fine wines to the artistry and craftsmanship of our local talents.

"By drawing visitors to our region, we create a vibrant atmosphere that benefits our community economically and fosters a deeper appreciation for our natural and cultural assets."

Tickets

Tickets for the 2024 Calamari Festival are on sale via Quicket - <https://www.quicket.com/events/270877-calamari-festival-2024/>.

More information

Whether you're a foodie, an adventure seeker, or just looking for a fun-filled family outing, the Calamari Festival has something for everyone. From wine tastings and cooking demonstrations to fishing competitions and heritage walks, this festival promises a week of excitement and community spirit.

For more information, visit the Calamari Festival website at www.calamarifestival.co.za. Alternatively, follow the Calamari Festival on Facebook and Instagram.

Let's celebrate St Francis Bay as the true Calamari Capital of South Africa!

Pull Quote

Enjoy the Calamari Festival in the Calamari Capital of South Africa and experience the Calamari Route – indulging in local chokka.

Caption

Gearing up for the Calamari Festival are (from left) Dionne Collett (Take Note Reputation Management), Megan Holden (Just Property), Hantie van der Westhuizen (St Francis Tourism), Lorraine Maree (Kouga Municipality: Member of Mayoral Committee for Finance and Economic Development), and Linky Kabot (St Francis Brewing Company).

