

CRICKET FRIES ANYONE? THE FAIR AT THE PNE UNVEILS ITS WILD 2017 FOOD LINE-UP

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Vancouver, B.C. – Every year British Columbia's most beloved tradition, the Fair at the PNE, is known for serving up nostalgic and drool inducing Fair foods, and this year's exciting lineup is no exception. From the familiar scents of warm mini donuts and cooking corndogs, to the new food sensation being introduced at the 2017 event, **Cricket Fries**, the Fair is almost here and it's time to loosen your waistbands and get ready for the all-new food options!

This year the Fair at the PNE presents a hamburger lineup that will delight every omnivore. Eating insects is common all over the world, and this year guests can step into a whole new world of food adventure with the **Roasted BBQ Cricket Burger**. High in fiber and protein, this burger packs a gratifying and tasty crunch. For the less adventurous, **Handmade Burger** will be serving up a hickory smoked cordon bleu stuffed burger that boasts a perfect blend of smoke, cheese and ham. Packed into an angus beef patty and served on a brioche bun, this is a must try at the Fair!

Of course, no fair is complete without hotdogs, and this year's twist on a Fair classic, **Super Footlong Hotdog** is divine. To celebrate their 60th year at the Fair, **Super Footlong Hotdogs** has created a **DBL Bacon Mac N' Cheese Super Footlong Hotdog**, that showcases their award-winning bacon wrapped footlong topped with homemade Mac N' Cheese. **Corndog King is** taking their classic corndog to the next level as well, with a **Cheesy Jalapeno Corndog** stuffed with cheese and wrapped in a spicy jalapeno batter. A premium veggie dog wrapped in their favourite batter is also an option for vegetarian fairgoers. Served on a stick, **Chicky's Chicken** is taking a delicious route by wrapping bacon around a hot dog and pickle, battering and deep frying to perfection.

Tacos have taken centre stage in the culinary world lately, and new to this year's Fair is **Los Hermanos Tacos**, who are serving up their gluten free, wild caught halibut wrapped in a corn taco. Topped with fresh trimmings, and house made pico de gallo, these tacos are always fresh and always delicious.

What's a Fair without fries? For the first time at the Fair, foodies will have the opportunity to try this wild take on a classic. For the advanced palate, try a basket of **Cricket Fries!** Fries, topped with roasted BBQ flavoured crickets, and gravy, who's brave enough to try?

There will also be some ethnic inspired food options including, **Crispy Chicken Feet on a Stick.** The name says it all, and while a staple in many ethnic cuisines, this is a tasty first for the PNE. Other globally inspired dishes are **Chili Lime Popcorn Shrimp Perogies**, which see traditional perogies topped with crispy panko shrimp, drizzled with a sweet chili glaze and Sriracha mayo, and served with lime and mint cucumbers. **Masala Lamb Burgers with Masala Fries**, and **Jamaican Jerk Chicken Pesto Dumplings** are a few of the other inspired options at this year's Fair.

Not to be missed are **Deep Fried Pizza Bites**, that are hand battered, and fried into delicious mouthfuls of hand-pulled mozzarella, pizza sauce, and pepperoni. Looking for another take on Italian? **Risotto Balls** are hot, crisp, handmade and deep fried to golden brown and served with homemade pizza sauce. For another hit of deep fried goodness, visitors will be wowed by **Deep Fried Pork Belly**. Considered to be the best cut-of-bacon, these slabs of pork belly skin are marinated for 24 hours and deep fried for a crunchy skin and juicy tender inside result.

For those with a sweet tooth, this is your year. To take the edge off the hot Fair days, **Prague Cones and Chimney Cakes** are a unique treat that puts a delicious spin on a traditional chimney cake. Rolled by hand, baked fresh, coated with cinnamon sugar and filled with premium soft serve, this to-die-for combo is sure to delight the senses.

A **Rolled Ice Cream Waffle Taco** is taking ice cream to a whole new level as well. Not only is the ice cream rolled and mixed with a choice of favorite toppings like Oreo, Skor and strawberries, but it's served in a waffle cone shaped as a taco! Nothing beats a hot and fresh mini donut, arguably until now. **Cookies & Cream Glazed Donuts** are fresh mini donuts dipped in a sweet honey glaze and coated with Oreo cookies. Another take on a Fair favourite is the **Churroreo.** Featured on the Food Network's *Carnival Eats*, and in celebration of Canada's 150 birthday, this sweet treat is a hot cinnamon Churro, covered in sweet maple batter, powdered sugar and warm maple icing. Soft serve historians may argue the origins of this deliciously creamy and light concoction, but there is no arguing that the Fair's creamy soft serve infused with Cherry Coca Cola is going to impress the masses.

Oreo seems to be a theme at this year's Fair, and for a treat, the Fair is fusing the cookie with an Asian flare to create - **Oreo Rice Pudding**. First, rice is cooked in coconut milk, to give it a sweet and tropical twist, then Oreos are placed in the mixture, combined to make a delicious dessert.

The PNE food and beverage team are excited for guests to try their take on the Beavertail. A Canadian staple, this sugary, sweet fried dough is rolled thin and covered in cinnamon and sugar. If that's not enough, **Gimme Some S'more Milkshakes** are made from local BC hard scoop ice cream, topped with premium milk chocolate, graham crackers and roasted marshmallows that are toasted to perfection right in front of guest's eyes.

For those looking for vegetarian, gluten-free, dairy free and all-around healthy options, the Fair at the PNE will have several options across the park that cater to numerous dietary restrictions.

For more a full list of the new food items coming to this year's Fair at the PNE visit www.pne.ca.

For high resolution photos of new food items e-mail scheverie@lbmg.ca

About the PNE:

Owned by the City of Vancouver, the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) is a healthy and vibrant non-profit organization dedicated to providing over 3 million visitors a year with first-class cultural, sporting and family entertainment events. Founded in 1910, the PNE operates from a 114-acre site at Hastings Park, a multi-facility venue in Vancouver where the organization operates four activity streams: an annual 15-day Fair, Playland Amusement Park, maintenance and care of the Hastings Park site and management of the site's year-round facilities. These facilities are utilized to celebrate a variety of amateur sporting, music, community, social, cultural and commercial events throughout the year.

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