

Time to make your Euphoria plans

Greenville is real nice in September

by Erica Jackson

It's hot. It's August. And you're stuck dreaming about crisp autumn air and colorful leaves. But instead of dreaming, why don't you start planning?

The annual Euphoria food and wine event is slated to take place in Greenville Sept. 23–26, when the weather will surely be cooler in the upstate. Euphoria, founded by singer/songwriter Edwin McCain and restaurateur Carl Sobocinski, features four days of events centered around food, wine, and music.

The party kicks off Thursday night with Songwriters in the Round at the Children's Museum of the Upstate, a behind-the-scenes event with McCain and some songwriter friends. On Friday, Taste of the South (\$100) takes over the Peace Center Amphitheater along the Reedy River. Chefs from local and national restaurants will present their own Southern specialties. Charleston's own 17 North will be in attendance along with Greenville favorites like American Grocery, The Lazy Goat, and Soby's. Edwin McCain and friends will perform. A VIP party is planned for later that night at the Huguenot Mill with late-night hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, and music.

If you can roll yourself out of bed Saturday, a tasting showcase, wine seminars, and cooking demos will take place all day on Greenville's Main Street (\$100). Later that evening, local restaurants will host wine dinners throughout the city, pairing local chefs with guest chefs from across the country (\$125). Chris Hastings (Hot and Hot Fish Club), Justin Bogle (GILT), and Charleston's Mike Lata are set to make appearances.

Hardcore foodies will rally for the Jazz Brunch and Culinary cook-off on Sunday (\$45, \$15/kids). Taste New Orleans cuisine and listen to live jazz during brunch, then watch festival chefs compete in entertaining and educational live cooking demonstrations. Tickets are still available for all events except for the wine dinner at Soby's featuring guest chef Michael Kramer, which is sold out.

A weekend pass includes tickets to the Taste of the South, Tasting Showcase, and Jazz Brunch and Culinary Cook-off for \$220. If you want to roll VIP-style, passes are \$795 and include extras like a BMW Mini driving experience and a special gift. Visit euphoriagreenville.com for all the details.

Tags: Greenville, Euphoria