

During Merano WineFestival, parallel “Fuorisalone” events will be run by The Circle - People, Lands, Experiences. An area where it will be possible to share and learn the history of lands and products, enjoying tasting sessions and relaxing breaks.

One of the new features of the 27th edition of Merano WineFestival. From the 9th to the 12th of November, Piazza della Rena square will host The Circle, an area dedicated to “Fuorisalone” events of the Merano WineFestival. Wine&food tasting stage, but also entertainment and relaxation area for those who wish to take a break near Kurhaus. Special guests: Joe Bastianich and Luca Gardini.

Merano, 6 November 2018 – Result of an idea of Manuela Popolizio, Federica Capobianco and Francesco Bruno Fadda, developed in close collaboration with the organisers of [Merano WineFestival](#), this new introduction, [The Circle – People, Lands, Experiences](#), is an opportunity of further learning and entertainment for the visitors of the Merano event.

An area of 450 m2 in Piazza della Rena square, which **for the whole day (9.00 - 24.00)** will become a stage for **tasting sessions, meetings** with producers of local **typical products, winemakers and chefs**, with the aim of **exploring their territories and learn about their stories** and experiences in food&wine. A stage to meet and discuss, with case histories of excellence and **“all-Italian” success stories**. And in the evening, after Kurhaus and the Gourmet Arena have closed their doors, The Circle becomes a **Lounge**, with live music and the possibility of enjoying a cigar in the set out “Fumoir” smoking area, taking a little time-out after an intense day. The Circle opens every day at the **Bistro**, with a **Breakfast Area** between 9.00 and 10.00 am, for the best start of the day. On the **9th of November**, the opening day of the Merano WineFestival, The Circle will host **Wild Cooking (10.00 - 17.00)**, dedicated to **fermented and natural foods**, with **tasting and learning** sessions, the **presentation of a book**, and a **round table** discussing **“Il Vino che verrà”** (The Wine that will come), attended by patron Helmuth Köcher and experts of the sector. In the evening, the Bistro will host the **tasting dinner (18.30)**, followed (21.00) by an exhibition of **The Circle Jazz Orchestra at The Stage**. On Saturday **10 November**, for the Tastings of The Circle, the most famous sommelier of Italy, Luca Gardini, will talk about „Vini di mare, Vini di montagna“ (“Sea Wines and Mountain Wines), with a study of **Crizia Vermentino di Gallura** and **Sanct Valentin Sauvignon (10.00)**. There will also be a toast with the winners of the Emergente Sala contest (11.30). The stars of the day will be the **Apulia territory, Barbera d’Asti, Parmigiano Reggiano and Water**. During the evening (22.00), **Joe Bastianich**, famous entrepreneur and entertainer, will present his own show **“Vino Veritas”**, which brings together music and life tales, all accompanied by a good glass of wine. The day will end with a **„Aglio e Olio sbagliata di Mezzanotte“** (Improvised midnight aglio and olio pasta) feast. On Sunday **11 November**, Franz Botrè, Director of **Spirito Di Vino**, one of the most important Italian **wine magazines** will unveil the new **graphic layout** of the publication (11.30). Among the stars of the learning and tasting sessions of the day will be **Vermouth, Wines from the Friuli region, Vinegar, Prosecco, Barbera**. Evening live music with **The Circle Jazz Orchestra**, ending the day with a **“Midnight risotto”**. And lastly, Monday **12 November will be dedicated to the Great Neapolitan Pizza**. But also to much more, through the tales of **Franco Pepe, renowned pizza maker** in the **50 Top pizza world rankings**; and again the handy craftsmanship of **Salvatore Salvo** and the young attention of **Valentino Tafuri**, in collaboration with Izzo Forni, true Neapolitan “Scugnizzo”. The stars will be the **territory of the Campania region, Coffee, Durello** in combination with **Oysters, Giardiniera and Cured Meats, Pizza** in combination with **Bubbles, Vernaccia**. During the evening, grand finale with “computer sommelier” **Andrea Gori** and his **Dj set**. The Circle will make available during the whole event an outside Fumoir smoking area (18.30 - 21.30), where people will be able to relax while enjoying a good cigar.

Follow this link for the **Complete Program** of The Circle
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XHyNINyYaiVUGLijujgd8V9igptfYgHh8/view?usp=sharing>

Merano WineFestival **Press Folder** at this link bit.ly/2fER0yz

Press Office: [smstudio](#) | Press & PR
Stefania Mafalda M +39 345 58 10 157 press@meranowinefestival.com
Federica Da Col M +39 324 8940641 press@smstudiopress.it