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### **Tasting Table of Festive Feasts**

Eleven executive chefs... eleven gourmet tasters representing the diversity of South Africa's cuisines, the colourful vibrancy of culinary influences, and a festive feast for a southern hemisphere country characterised by a rainbow nation.

In a celebration of South African life, Tsogo Sun presented an 11-course tasting menu to a discerning table of foodie influencers in Cape Town, with nine of its executive chefs flying in for the day to join two of the group's Cape Town chefs in showcasing their diverse talents and personalities at a Festive Feast for Christmas in July.

"Tsogo Sun is proud to have some of the country's most talented, skilled and just plain fascinating chefs in its kitchen brigades," says Priya Naidoo, General Manager, Group Communications for Tsogo Sun. "The eleven chefs who presented signature dishes from their respective restaurants' festive season menus represent the finest talent within the group, and the diversity of offerings within our restaurant brands."

The Festive Feast, hosted by Tsogo Sun at Southern Sun The Cullinan, showcased the culinary talents of:

- Garth Shnier of San at Sandton Sun – a multiple international gold, silver and bronze medal-winning chef
- Alfred Henry of Riempiers at Southern Sun Cape Sun – a chocolatier by trade, turned executive chef
- Deena Naidoo of Aarya at SunSquare Montecasino – the first winner of MasterChef SA
- Henrico Grobbelaar of Stella at Southern Sun The Cullinan – the captain of South Africa's National Culinary Team
- Jade Sullaphen of Punchinello's at Southern Sun Montecasino – a chef who has cooked for presidential dinners and delegations
- Clinton Bonhomme of The Grill Jichana at Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani – the only chef in SA to be invited three times to cook for the Table of Peace and Unity
- Shaun Munro of Lingela at Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani – the chef in charge of nine food & beverage outlets
- Tony Kocke of The Sugar Club at the Beverly Hills – former owner of a Michelin-star restaurant in the UK
- Vaughan Assam of Back o' the Moon at Gold Reef City – the youngest-ever executive chef of the Blue Train
- Gareth Jordaan of Lucé at Southern Sun Hyde Park – opening sous chef for the Cipriani Restaurant and Yacht Club in Abu Dhabi
- Kenneth Ngubane of Jenda at Montecasino – a chef who trained a MasterChef judge

Says Kevin Page, Food & Beverage Director of Tsogo Sun, "Food and beverage is a core competency at Tsogo Sun and is positioned at the forefront of the group's gaming and hotel hospitality delivery, with over 80 restaurants and food outlets across the group all with a strong focus on world-class quality and memorable culinary experiences.

"We're extremely proud of how far Tsogo Sun has come over the last few years with the overall quality of its food and beverage offering. We have assumed custodianship of the food & beverage business within the group and we are ensuring that it is a critical delivery factor in the overall hospitality environment; after all, it employs a third of our workforce. Food and beverage is part and parcel of being hospitable, and our F&B offering is all about ensuring excellent, honest and memorable delivery of food and beverage."