

Colorado Restaurant Association Welcomes the Michelin Guide to the

Centennial State

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Denver, CO – **The Colorado Restaurant Association** (CRA) is thrilled to welcome the Michelin Guide to Colorado, following its <u>announcement</u> last week that the Centennial State is now the eighth Michelin Guide destination in North America and the sixth in the United States.

"In 2022, the Michelin Guide conducted a destination study in Colorado, and we spoke with Michelin about the excellence of the Colorado restaurant industry," said Sonia Riggs, CRA president and CEO. "The Michelin team was pleased with the inspectors' initial findings, and since then, the Colorado Tourism Office, led by director Tim Wolfe, has solidified the partnership. We couldn't be happier for our industry."

The CRA is excited that the Michelin Guide's independent, anonymous inspectors have been dining at restaurants across Colorado's culinary hotspots: Denver, Boulder, Aspen, Snowmass Village, Vail, and Beaver Creek Resort. The inaugural edition of the Michelin Guide Colorado will be announced later this year, including Starred, Bib Gourmand, and Recommended restaurants. Green Stars, awarded for outstanding sustainability practices, are a possibility as well.

"When the Michelin Guide enters a market, it increases public awareness of the culinary talent in the region, encourages development, and helps with restaurant-industry hiring, too," said Riggs. "After everything Colorado restaurants have endured over the past few years, including the ongoing labor shortage, Michelin's announcement couldn't come at a better time."

"I've been working in the restaurant industry for decades and know from experience that the impact of Michelin coming to Colorado cannot be understated," said Bobby Stuckey, Master Sommelier and founder of Frasca Hospitality Group, which owns Frasca Food and Wine and Pizzeria Alberico in Boulder and Tavernetta and Sunday Vinyl in Denver. "People travel around the world to visit Michelin-Starred restaurants, and the benefit to our dining scene and Colorado's economy will be enormous."

"Through the Michelin Guide Colorado, diners across the globe will discover what we've always known: The Colorado dining scene is dynamic, delicious, and growing by the day," Riggs said. "We are confident that our local restaurants will rise to this occasion, impressing Michelin inspectors and proving that the Centennial State is worthy of Stars, Bib Gourmand awards, and much more."

Please reach out if you have questions about the impact of the Michelin Guide on Colorado restaurants or the work of the CRA.



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About the Colorado Restaurant Association

The Colorado Restaurant Association (CRA) is dedicated to the enhancement and success of Colorado's foodservice industry. Founded in 1933, the CRA is the leading trade organization for the state's dynamic restaurant community. The CRA represents, educates, and promotes a \$14+ billion industry comprised of more than 12,700 eating and drinking establishments and 260,000 workers. <u>corestaurant.org</u>

About Michelin North America, Inc.

Michelin, the leading mobility company, is working with tires, around tires, and beyond tires to enable Motion for Life. Dedicated to enhancing its clients' mobility and sustainability, Michelin designs and distributes the most suitable tires, services, and solutions for its customers' needs. Michelin provides digital services, maps and guides to help enrich travel and make them unique experiences. Bringing its expertise to new markets, the company is investing in high-technology materials, 3D printing and hydrogen, to serve a wide variety of industries — from aerospace to biotech. Headquartered in Greenville, South Carolina, Michelin North America has approximately 23,000 employees and operates 34 production facilities in the United States and Canada. <u>michelinman.com</u>