



WILLARD  
INTERCONTINENTAL®  
WASHINGTON D.C.

**Grape-Stomping on Pennsylvania Avenue, French Wine, Food and Music Enliven the Willard's Vendanges Outdoor Wine Fest**

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Washington DC, September 13, 2009 -- The Willard InterContinental and Café du Parc celebrates its second annual Vendanges, the autumnal wine harvest festival as enjoyed throughout France. Locals and visitors will fill the colorful Willard courtyard venue on Thursday, October 1, from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. to enjoy the offerings of French regional wine purveyors featuring some 40 different styles of French wine and beers. Cafe du Parc's Chef de Cuisine, Christophe Marque, presents authentic French festival dishes with music provided by The Gypsy Strings, bringing the music of Europe, the Mediterranean and the Middle East to the Vendanges celebration. There will be dancing, grape-stomping. Guests can purchase tickets at the event, starting at \$20, for four items to be redeemed at food and wine stations set up throughout the courtyard.

Chef Marque's offerings will include country charcuterie and cheeses, French barbeque including Toulouse Sausages, and beef, lamb and Monkfish brochette, savory and sweet crepes, to be savored on long, family-style communal tables.

The featured wines will display the quality and value of the small producers of French wines who are themselves the wine makers. Participants will enjoy this festival that brings the opportunity to taste French wines made in limited quantities, complimented by the French artisan, regional food being offered on this festive occasion.

*Café du Parc, the popular French bistro located next to the Willard InterContinental, opened in April 2007. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner, afternoon petit plats, takeout lunch items and house specialty French pastries, Café du Parc embraces true classic bistro cuisine with accompanying French wines. Chef Christophe Marque leads Café du Parc's culinary brigade under the guidance consultancy of celebrated Michelin-starred French chef, Antoine Westermann. Call Cafe du Parc at: 202-942-7000, or visit our Website <http://www.cafeduparc.com/>*