



## ★ GIANT NATIONAL CAPITAL BARBECUE BATTLE ★

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## **The Giant Barbecue Battle Celebrates its 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on June 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> 2018**

**Washington, D.C. (February 9, 2018)** - When the scent of cherry blossoms fades into the hickory sweet aroma of mouth-watering BBQ, you know time for the area's tastiest summer celebration, the 26th Anniversary of the Giant® National Capital Barbecue Battle. Held on the first weekend of Summer, this mammoth festival pays homage to everything BBQ.

On June 23rd and 24th, Historic Pennsylvania Avenue will once again transform into a festival of amazing sights, sounds, and aromas. This year's Giant® BBQ Battle will take place on both Pennsylvania Avenue and Constitution Ave, NW between 3rd and 7th Streets. The usual street noise will be replaced by the sounds of powerful vocals and soulful melodies from over 30 bands performing live Rock, Reggae, Jazz, Blues, R&B and Go-Go throughout the weekend.

The Giant® Barbecue Battle is one of the largest and most unique food and music festivals in the country and offers a chance to experience the thrill of competition BBQ at its best. Cooks from across the country compete for cash and prizes and the coveted title of National BBQ Champion. Barbecue legends like Myron Mixon and Tuffy Stone from TV's "BBQ Pit Masters Show," compete side by-side with top BBQ Chefs and mom-and-pop teams for the coveted title of America's National Barbecue Champion. Teams cook off in multiple Cooking Contests including The National Pork BBQ Championship sponsored by the National Pork Board, Perdue Sizzlin' Chicken Contest, Smithfield BBQ Rib Contest and America's Best BBQ Sauce. In addition, military chefs from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard will participate in a special Military Chef's Contest to benefit the USO-Metro. This year's event benefits both the USO-Metro and the Capital Area Food Bank. To date, the BBQ Battle has raised millions of dollars for these and other worthy District charities.

At the event, visitors can dig into flavorful plates of beef brisket, chicken, pork and lamb prepared by some of the best BBQ restaurants from across the country. Guests will be offered plentiful free food samples throughout the event site from mini BBQ sandwiches, to all kinds of grilled foods, sides and treats in the Taste of Giant® Sampling Pavilion, along with great regional fare sampled in the Giant® Local Flavors Tent. To quench everyone's thirst, the event will feature Barefoot Beach Wine Sampling, Giant® Corks and Caps Micro-Brew and Wine Sampling Tent, a variety of Anheuser-Bush products, and plenty of popular non-alcoholic drinks.

Enjoy Cooking Demonstrations all weekend long from Celebrity Chefs and Cookbook Authors like Robert Irvine of Food Channel Fame and delight with unique exhibits & activities like the Johnsonville Big Taste "World's Largest" Grill, the Oscar Mayer Wiener Mobile, Nathan's Famous Hot Dog Eating Contest, Mr. Peanut Tour, Comcast Tech Pavilion, and summer sports action from The Baltimore Brigade, Washington Wizards, Mystics, Valor, National's, and DC United.

The 2018 Giant® National Capital Barbecue Battle is heating up to be the biggest & best yet, so block off the weekend of June 23rd and 24th and prepare the whole family for DC's Favorite Festival of feasting & fun. Please visit [www.BBQinDC.com](http://www.BBQinDC.com) for the event schedule and more information. **We'll See You at the BBQ!**

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