## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Mussels, Waffles & Beer: It's Belgian Restaurant Week, NYC!

*New York City, NY – July 5, 2012 -* Foodies rejoice again! For the second year, the Belgian restaurants in New York City bring you delightful cuisine and great brews during a weeklong celebration of Belgian gastronomy and culinary innovation.

From **July 16th through July 21st** get your chance to enjoy yummy multi-course meals, indulge in mussel mania, savor scrumptious waffles and enjoy some of the world's finest brews. This year's edition is endorsed by celebrity chef David Boome from ABC's The Chew and The Food Network. Enter the online sweepstakes to **win a gastronomic trip for two to Belgium\***, sponsored by Visit Flanders and

the Belgian Tourist Office.

Seven premier Belgian restaurants and one Beer shop in the city will offer one week of specials prepared to introduce you to the Belgian culinary traditions:

- BXL Café
- La Petite Abeille
- Le Pain Quotidien
- Markt
- Wafels & Dinges
- Rouge Tomate
- Brabant Belgian Brasserie
- Top Hops Beer Shop

End the week with a celebration of Belgian independence, on July 21<sup>st</sup>, with a bash held at the Highland Ball Room featuring renowned musical sensation Axelle Red performing live followed by a grand ball! Purchase tickets in advance: <u>www.belcham.org</u>

Visit <u>www.belgianrestaurantweeknyc.com</u> for a list of special restaurant week menus and locations. Follow on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u> for the latest news and giveaways.

Belgian Restaurant Week is organized by the Belgian American Chamber of Commerce, the Tourist Office for Flanders- Brussels and the Belgian Tourist Office, who have joined forces to increase awareness of Belgium as a premier culinary destination.

Some fun facts about Belgium:

- Centre of Europe: Did you know Brussels is the capital of Europe?
- Belgians know how to party: Apart from brewing over 400 beers, Belgians consume over 40 gallons of beer per person, each year.
- Belgians have a well-sharpened sweet tooth: The world's largest chocolate selling point is Brussels International Airport.
- Belgians are artistic innovators: There are over 884 Belgian comic book series, including "The Adventures of Tintin" which has sold over 200 million copies worldwide.
- Belgians not only know music, they helped create some of the smoothest sounds that influenced the Jazz Era right here in New York City: The saxophone was invented by Adolphe Sax, in Dinant, Belgium.

Now that you're in love with Belgian food, it's time to fall in love with Belgium—you'll be glad you did.



www.visitflanders.us

BELGIAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

www.belcham.org



Enter by visiting one of the participating locations or by entering the online sweepstakes available during the Belgian Restaurant Week (July 16 – July 21, 2012). No purchase necessary. Sweepstakes are open to residents of the US and District of Columbia only. The package may not be transferred and has no cash value. Travel must be completed by May 31<sup>st</sup> 2013. Accommodations will be based on hotel availability on the requested travel dates. Please note that certain blackout dates may apply, including but not limited to December 15<sup>th</sup> 2013 through January 10<sup>th</sup> 2013.