

For Immediate Release

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A Culinary Reunion Promises Innovation at Cork

SARASOTA, FL. . . FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE. . . Cork Restaurant on St. Armand's Circle welcomes **Chef Thomas Hodgson** as the new **Chef de Cuisine**. This culinary move reunites Executive Chef Jeff Trefry with Hodgson almost a decade after their work together at Café l'Europe. Mutual respect, an open exchange of creative ideas and commitment to professionalism underlie this culinary collaboration. Hodgson infuses Cork's contemporary vision with a high standard of excellence, commitment to quality and freshness, and breadth of work experience in international cuisines.

Prior to his current position as Trefry's right-hand man, Hodgson excelled in fine dining establishments across the Sarasota and Tampa Bay areas. He worked as Sous Chef at Roy's Hawaiian Fusion Cuisine (2007-2009), opened multiple destinations for Chef Paul Mattison (Mattison's Riverside Bradenton, Mattison's City Grill 2004-2007), and created award-winning fare at SideBern's Tampa (2002-2004). Hodgson brings managerial experience and a repertoire of international flavor profiles and cooking techniques to the St. Armand's modern dining destination.

Trefry and Hodgson's work at Café l'Europe set the standard for fine dining in Sarasota at the turn of the century; reuniting this culinary duo promises innovation and revitalization for a city thirsty to rebuild. According to Trefry, "I am excited to be reunited with a fine young professional like Tommy. We've worked together for years, and I look forward to collaborating on some culinary magic at Cork."



Cork Chef de Cuisine Thomas "Tommy" Hodgson

About Cork

Cork is the one-stop destination for casual Mediterranean dining and wine and spirits retail - at the street level - and modern dining - on the second floor. Located on St. Armand's Circle, Sarasota, Florida's famed shopping and restaurant district on the Gulf of Mexico, Cork was named "Best New Restaurant" by Florida Trend Magazine and "simply the most exciting new restaurant in Sarasota" by STYLE Magazine. Its contemporary continental cuisine is punctuated by an international wine list that compliments Chef Trefry's cuisine. All wine list selections are available for retail purchase in the ground floor BottleShop.

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