

The Palm Beach Post

Palm Beach dining: In lieu of trip to Spain, cooking class will come to you



Thanks to her Andalusia-based culinary expert cousin, Palm Beach master sommelier Virginia Philip is bringing a taste of Spain to Palm Beach.

It involves a Zoom cooking class this Saturday with Philip's charismatic cousin Annie Manson, a southern Spain gastronomy expert runs the Casa Alegre cooking school in Jerez de la Frontera.

The cooking class — featuring Manson live from Casa Alegre, cooking such dishes as baked snapper with Romesco sauce — is a substitute, of sorts, for something Philip's eponymous Palm Beach wine shop annually hosts: a trip to Spain, featuring Manson as guide and culinary guru.

The annual trip isn't taking place this year due to coronavirus-related travel issues, said Philip, whose Virginia Philip Wine, Spirits and Academy is located in Royal Poinciana Plaza.

"This Zoom class is going to be a lot of fun, and everyone who participates will receive a video to watch in advance of the class," showing what ingredients to look for and buy as Manson, in the video, takes viewers shopping at markets, Philip said Tuesday.

In addition to the shopping video, cooking-class participants will receive other goodies in advance of the class, including recipes, tasting notes and pictures of what the class dishes should look like once they're prepared.

The Zoom cooking class is 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday with Manson demonstrating from her Spain cooking-school kitchen how you prepare the planned dishes.

Dishes are set to include melon-and-mint gazpacho; baked snapper with Romesco sauce, Spanish potato salad and spinach; and chocolate-and-almond cake with wine-soaked raisins and crème fraiche.

The class is \$75 a person; participation is limited to 10 Zoom spots to keep the experience intimate, Philip said.

Participants can opt to buy, in advance of the class, Philip-curated wine pairings for the dishes. The optional advance package of wines is an additional \$75.

For more information, call Virginia Philip Wine Spirits & Academy at 557-4202 or visit www.virginiaphilipwineandspirits.com