

Fifth Annual WV Coalfields Cookoff Set for June 6-7, 2025, in Welch, WV

For Immediate Release, Welch, WV – The City of Welch is excited to announce that the fifth annual WV Coalfields Cookoff will take place on June 6-7, 2025. This vibrant festival, hosted by the City of Welch (CoalTown, USA), welcomes BBQ competitors, eating enthusiasts and families looking for fun! The festival promises a free, fun-filled, and unique event for everyone.

Sanctioned by the Kansas City BBQ Society (KCBS), the event will feature professional, and backyard BBQ cook teams, along with live music a variety of vendors, family-friendly activities, a beer garden, a ticketed BBQ Tasting event, and an ATV show. Kickstarting the weekend on Friday evening, festivalgoers can enjoy live music from the Shane Thomas Band from Ashland, Kentucky and enjoy food from an array of street vendors.

The WV Coalfields Cookoff, sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbeque Society (KCBS), and designated as a WV State BBQ Championship will feature an impressive prize pool of \$13,000 for Professional and Backyard BBQ teams. This competition not only showcases the exceptional culinary skills of pitmasters from across the nation, but also adds a spirit of friendly rivalry to the festival for local backyard teams. Teams will compete for top honors in various categories, including chicken, pork, brisket, and ribs and a public category of pulled pork.

While BBQ competitors kick off their cooking contest, several other activities are planned for spectators including kids' games, wood carving demonstrations, and a public pulled pork tasing on Saturday afternoon. Delight your taste buds with culinary offerings from food trucks, ranging from classic funnel cakes to innovative BBQ-inspired dishes and enjoying arts, crafts, unique collectibles, and local treasures from several vendors. Locals will also recommend you visit the CoalTown Creamery for ice cream and nostalgia. While previous attendees will tell you to grab a cold beverage from the Cookoff sponsored Beer Garden to pair with a big bite of BBQ and take time to stroll through the quaint downtown. For thrill-seekers, ATV rides will be available on Friday from Saturday from 11 AM-3 PM. Additionally, karaoke will take place on Saturday afternoon. More special activities will be announced later in the spring as activities are added.

“The WV Coalfields Cookoff has flourished over the past five years,” said Mayor Harold McBride, Sr. “We’ve dedicated ourselves to creating an event that appeals to everyone.” As night falls on Friday, visitors can enjoy downtown and experience the Appalachian ambiance that we are so proud of in Coaltown, USA and the fun will continue through Saturday!

As we enter our 5th year, the word us out about our BBQ festival, and we’re thrilled to welcome the public to Coaltown, USA from several states. It’s a great road trip for visitors who will find a weekend of great food, music, and community spirit in Welch and invite everyone to come,” McBride added.

While admission to the WV Coalfields Cookoff is free, attendees wishing to enjoy the public barbecue tasting on Saturday, prepared by competitors, can purchase a BBQ Tasting Ticket for just \$10, or half price for veterans and first responders. This ticket grants access to sample various pulled pork dishes on Saturday afternoon and participate in voting for the fan favorite.

For additional information and updates, attendees are encouraged to follow @wvcoalfieldscookoff on Facebook and Instagram and visit our website at www.wvcoalfieldscookoff.com.

MEDIA INFORMATION: For additional information, images, or interview requests, contact Andrea Ball, festival organizer at 301.335.2715 (call/text) or Andrea@planitworld.com. Visit www.coalfieldscookoff.com for additional information about the event. Hashtags: #KCBS #BBQ #WVCoalfieldsCookoff #CoaltownUSA #SXS #AppalachiaFestivals

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