

\$22 Million. 22 Years. Houston's Biggest Food Event Returns. August 1-September 1 | Dine Out & Do GoodTM

HOUSTON, TX, JUNE 3, 2025 – Houston's most anticipated foodie event will celebrate its 22nd year, <u>Houston Restaurant Weeks</u>™ beginning August 1st and running through Labor Day, September 1st.

This year, **The Cleverley Stone Foundation** has modified donation amounts to \$1, \$3, and \$5 per Houston Restaurant Weeks meal sold in response to the rising costs of goods the restaurant industry has been hit with in recent months. The lower donation amounts per meal will help operators through a difficult time, while still generating significant revenue for the Houston Food Bank.

Originally created to help bolster Houston's restaurant industry in August, historically the slowest month of the year for restaurants nationwide, August in Houston has become the most profitable month or busiest month of the year for most participants and industry suppliers. As a best-in-practice partner to the industry, the foundation also lowered the donation amounts during peak COVID times in August of 2020, with the resulting Houston Restaurant Weeks' traffic keeping many restaurants afloat after shutdowns.

"The Houston Food Bank is so grateful to again be the beneficiary of Houston Restaurant Weeks," said Brian Greene, President, and CEO of Houston Food Bank. "The funds raised by this event are more critical than ever, at a time when food banks are experiencing both funding cuts and increased need in the community. Thank you to Katie Stone and The Cleverley Stone Foundation for sustaining Cleverley's legacy of dining out and doing good!"

<u>Houston Restaurant Weeks</u> was created in 2003 by the late media personality Cleverley Stone and has grown to be the largest Restaurant Weeks fundraiser in the United States. Benefiting the Houston Food Bank the event has raised over **\$22 million** dollars since inception, which has provided more than **66 million meals** for food-insecure Houstonians. Today, her daughter Katie Stone, President of the Cleverley Stone Foundation carries on the mission in her honor.

"The purpose of Houston Restaurant Weeks since its inception has been to support the restaurant community," said Katie Stone, president of the foundation. "Over 22 years it has become a juggernaut of a fundraiser and a great opportunity for Houstonians to explore our vibrant food scene. We look forward to the return of our Houston Restaurant Weeks veterans and to welcome many new participants to the 2025 lineup."

Houston Restaurant Weeks represents 32 days of delicious meals and super deals raising necessary funds for the Houston Food Bank. It's anticipated that around **400 restaurants** will be on board in 2025, offering prix fixe brunches, lunches, and dinners with built-in donations, providing customers a "great dining deal" and helping diners to discover new cuisines and new favorites! Restaurants from the Galleria, Inner Loop, West Houston, East End, Midtown, Downtown, Sugar Land to Galveston and The Woodlands will be participating.

Participating restaurants will make donations based on their Houston Restaurant Weeks menu sales. The 2025 meal prices, and donation amounts are as follows:

HRW MEAL	RESTAURANT DONATION	NUMBER OF MEALS
PRICES	PER HRW	GENERATED BY HOUSTON
	MEAL SOLD	FOOD BANK PER HRW
		MEAL SOLD
Dinner \$55	\$5	15
Dinner \$39	\$3	9
Brunch \$25	\$1	3
Lunch \$25	\$1	3

Starting on July 15th, diners can visit http://www.houstonrestaurantweeks.com/ to view the list of restaurants that have committed to participate, along with their 2025 Houston Restaurant Weeks menus. Participating restaurant menus will be added to the website up until August 1st. From award-winning fine dining to casual neighborhood restaurants, diners can sample some of the best that Houston's culinary scene has to offer. Restaurants interested in participating in Houston Restaurant Weeks, please submit the contact form on the website.

2025 Sponsors include: FOX26 Houston, FOX Local, ESPN 97.5 & 92.5 FM, OpenTable, Stella Artois, SYSCO, and Vibemap.

2025 Media Sponsors include: Buzz Magazines, Hello Woodlands, Que Onda Magazine, SB+ Magazine, and Swoon Magazine. – current media sponsors to date.

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ABOUT THE FOUNDER & THE CLEVERLEY STONE FOUNDATION

Houston Restaurant Weeks was established in 2003 by 26-year restaurant correspondent and philanthropist <u>Cleverley Stone</u>, former host of "<u>The Cleverley Show</u>," a talk show about food, wine and dining on CBS Sports Radio 650/KIKK-AM and former food segment contributor to <u>Fox 26/KRIV Morning News</u> in Houston. To date, Houston Restaurant Weeks has donated over \$22 million to fight hunger in Houston, providing over 66 million meals for those who are food insecure. The Cleverley Stone Foundation now exists to continue her mission and legacy by supporting Houstonians in need by producing Houston Restaurant Weeks, benefiting the Houston Food Bank, and sister event Eat Drink HTX.



ABOUT HOUSTON FOOD BANK

Serving Houston and southeast Texas since 1982, Houston Food Bank's mission is to provide food for better lives. We provide access to 140 million nutritious meals in 18 counties through our 1,600 community partners of food pantries, soup kitchens, social service providers and schools. Filling gaps on plates, we have a strong focus on healthy foods and fresh produce. In collaboration with our community, we advocate for policy change and racial equity, and promote dialogue on ways to increase access to food and to improve the lives of those in our communities, including services and connections to programs that address the root causes of hunger and are aimed at helping families achieve long-term stability: nutrition education, health management and help with securing state-funded assistance. We are a resource for individuals and families in times of hardship. Houston Food Bank works alongside our partner food banks in Montgomery County, Galveston County and Brazos Valley. Houston Food Bank is a certified member of Feeding America, the nation's food bank network, with a four-star rating from Charity Navigator for the 13th consecutive year.

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