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**SALÓN
GOURMETS**

7—10
Abril 2025

Ifema
Madrid

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NEW WINNERS OF THE 31ST HAM CUTTING CONTEST / DEHESA DE EXTREMADURA, 5TH BURGER COMBAT, HAMBURGER SPANISH CHAMPIONSHIP GOURMETS / LANTMÄNNEN 2025 AND THE 11TH ESTRELLA GALICIA BEER PULLING CHAMPIONSHIP.

Josué Falcón Morales has been chosen as the Best Ham Slicer of the most traditional competition at Salón Gourmets (SG); Manuel Andrés Pérez, from the Bedia Batzoki Berria restaurant, has won first prize in the 5º Burger Combat, Hamburger Spanish Championship Gourmets / Lantmännen 2025.

The title of 'Best Beer Puller in Spain 2025', chosen in the competition organised by Estrella Galicia, official beer of the Salón Gourmets 2025, went to Lorena Medina Dum, from 'La Taberna II' in Alcorcón. Second place went to Branduse Emanuel Lonut, from 'Mesón Casa Juan' in Arganda del Rey.

From today, Monday 7 April, until Thursday 10, six pavilions at Ifema Madrid will once again host Europe's leading Quality Food and Beverages Fair, which in its 38th edition has around 2,100 exhibitors, 55,000 products and an expected attendance of more than 110,000 professionals.





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Madrid, April 7, 2025 - On the first day of the 38th edition of Salón Gourmets (SG), two of the most eagerly awaited competitions were held: the 31st Ham Cutting Contest / Dehesa de Extremadura and the 5º Burger Combat, Hamburger Spanish Championship Gourmets / Lantmännen 2025. Two competitions that have tested the talent, ingenuity and skill of the participants. 11st Beer Pouring Championship Estrella Galicia was also held.

The Ham Cutting Contest is the most traditional of the SG, since the first edition was held in 1994. In the 31st Ham Cutting Contest / Dehesa de Extremadura, the first prize went to Josué Falcón Morales, from Frimancha, while Javier Campos Grande won second prize and Alejandro Sánchez, third. The first, second and third runners-up prizes went to Manuel Gallardo, Antonio Julián Ortuño and Pedro Picornell, respectively. For Josué Falcón, winner of the contest and the Creative Dish Award, he explained that “this gift means a renewed enthusiasm to move forward” in his career. “Being a winner at Salón Gourmets is a privilege that few can achieve and I am proud to be one of them”, he concluded.

The contestants had an hour and a half to demonstrate their skills and become the Best Ham Cutter in Spain. Six slicers competed in skill before a jury of professionals, made up of Francisco Espárrago Carande, president of the Regulatory Council of the Dehesa de Extremadura PDO, José Hernández Talaván, chef at the Versátil restaurant, Begoña Tormo, journalist and gastronomic presenter, Juan Hernández, slicer at Urrechu, Pedro Larrumbe, of the Larrumbe Group, and Vicente Méndez Clavel, professional ham slicer. They evaluated parameters such as the thickness and size of the slice, the straightness of the cut, the presentation of the dish, cleanliness and speed, among others. In the contest, participants had to calculate a 100-gram portion, demonstrate their knowledge of ham culture by answering a related question and present a dish with each of the parts of this product: maza, babilla and punta.

At the awards ceremony that took place after the contest, the winner received an Iberian cebo ham DO Dehesa de Extremadura and a cash prize of 1,000 €, as well as a trophy and a diploma certifying him as the Best Cutter of Spain 2025. The second place, a ham stand and a diploma and the third classified a blanket of knives. In the category of Best Creative/Artistic Dish, the winner was Josué Falcón Morales, who received a diploma and a Cebo Campo DO Dehesa de Extremadura ham.

THE BEST BURGERS COME TOGETHER AT THE 5TH BURGER COMBAT

The most anticipated gourmet burger event of the year was held this Monday in SG. At the 5th Burger Combat, Campeonato de España de Hamburguesas Gourmets / Lantmännen 2025, Manuel Andrés Pérez, from the Bedia Batzoki Berria restaurant in Bilbao, has won the title of Best Gourmet Burger Chef of Spain 2025 with “La Llama de Arratia”, a hamburger made with hand-ground matured meat, with local products from the Arratia Valley, caramelized onion and boletus, with cheddar cheese and the juiciness of its fat and an egg yolk. The second classified was Alejandro Moreno, from 'TNT' Smash Burger' and in third place was José Jamardo, from Lamarta restaurant. The winner, Manuel Andrés, was very happy for the award and hopes that the level of sales will rise again with this new prize. “I am happy and content, I feel like I am flying, and I am proud that the prize is going to the north, specifically to the Arratia Valley, which is a small village”, he said.

In the contest, organized by Lantmännen Unibake and Grupo Gourmets, six chefs from all over the country participated, who only had 20 minutes to make four hamburgers. A select professional jury, led by chef Carlos Maldonado, tasted and evaluated the burgers live. The participants had to prepare a recipe with an essential ingredient, the hamburger buns from Lantmännen Unibake, the brand that created and organized the event. None of



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the selected chefs knew the type of bread they would have to cook with, which in the end was a pretzel. The contest, which takes place live, measures the creativity of the chefs when preparing their premium hamburger recipe, as well as evaluating the most ingenious combinations of flavors, presentation, harmony and innovation in the ingredients used. From the most classic to the most avant-garde, this contest elevates burgers to gourmet status.

LORENA MEDINA, WINNER OF THE 11TH ESTRELLA GALICIA BEER PULLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Lorena Medina Dum, from 'La Taberna II' in Alorcón, has been elected the “Best Beer Puller in Spain 2025” in the national grand final of the 11th Estrella Galicia Beer Pulling Championship at Salón Gourmets. The Jury, composed of Juan Vitón, from Cultura de Cerveza Hijos de Rivera, Antonio Vizcaíno, Professor at the Escuela Superior de Hostelería y Turismo Madrid, Yann Boix, Beer Sommelier, Mateo Escobar, Beer Sommelier and Carlos Vicente, National Beer Pulling Champion 2024, awarded Lorena Medina Dum the title and a cash prize of €1,000.



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