

THE LOCALIST

A Multi-platform Food & Travel Series
by Limehouse Entertainment

What foodstuff most says “home” to the locals in Portland, Maine? Lobster. Obviously, right? Not so for true natives of the Pine Tree State. That title goes to “bean hole beans”, the rich bean-pork-molasses casserole that cooks for eight hours in a hole in the ground. The dish dates back to the Pilgrims. In fact, it still gets served up every Saturday night at the Legion’s bean supper. It’s tradition.

But you wouldn’t know this if you weren’t a local.

Until now.

The Localist is a unscripted food and travel series that explores the unique, overlooked, even unrecognized pocket cultures found all over America—as experienced through the customs, communities, and cuisine of the people who actually live there.

Every week, our host (a charismatic world-class celebrity chef), visits a truly off-the-beaten path ethnic neighborhood, rural town, or provincial village somewhere in the U.S. The mission? Become a local... in just five days.

To pull this off, our challenge-loving host must totally immerse himself in local culture: rent a neighborhood apartment, win over the community, and uncover and sample their favorite home-cooked dishes. Then at the end of the week, our tireless host must throw a party for the locals, serving up his take on quintessential local fare with ingredients sourced from hometown vendors.

No staying in hotels, no dining out for meals, no researching on the Internet. To get the true lay of the land, our crafty host can ask the locals anything. He may also consult a “mentor” chef from town who offers up the history behind the classic regional cuisine, explains local customs and norms, and even shows up for the big party... to cook up the exact same menu as our host for little a neighborly competition in local pride.

Whether it’s Navajo tortillas in New Mexico, stuffed pig’s stomach in Louisiana, or even khinkali from the nation of Georgia served up in the South Bronx, it’s up to the locals to decide in a blind taste test who does “local” best: the chef who’s been cooking the stuff all his life... or the gal/guy who just blew into town. Will our host prove himself an honorary local? Or be “sent packin’?”

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