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**FIG'S GUIDE TO PERFECT PICNIC-ING!**

With warm weather just around the corner, the snow piles are melting and it's time to make room for the perfect picnic spots. Chicago's FIG Catering [For Intimate Gatherings] helps you pick the perfect morsels to put in your picnic basket.

The city of Chicago has over 7,000 acres of parkland, and you'll want sturdy basket that will withstand all your exploring this season! A traditional wooden basket will always make the best companion, but baskets made of recycled plastic are becoming increasingly popular not only for their strength, but their earth-friendly composition. Following the tradition, no picnic is complete without a blanket to complete the scene. Make sure to choose a blanket that is tightly woven to make save your picnics from damp areas.

FIG has the perfect picks to turn your picnic into a healthy feast! An assortment of seasonal fresh fruit served with FIGgy Fruit Dip serves as an appetizer and can be shared throughout the day. Curried chicken salad sandwiches with a mixed greens salad are a tasty main course that will have your family asking for seconds. Instead of soda, FIG recommends an ice cold pitcher of freshly squeezed raspberry lemonade will quench any thirst. The perfect picnic dessert should compliment the meal and also travel well, like a cake square or delicious cupcake recipe.

Looking to liven up your picnic? FIG Catering offers in-home cooking classes that can show you how to create this meal and many others, all ready to pack and eat at your favorite park! FIG can also cater your next family gathering or small company picnics.

**ABOUT FIG CATERING**

Under the direction of Head Chef Justin Hall and Pastry Chef Molly Schemper, FIG Catering offers small event catering services for groups from 2-120, along with cooking classes for adults and kids. They have been featured in *Daily Candy*, *Catersource*, *Chicago Tribune* and *Time Out Chicago*. For more information, please visit their website: <http://www.FIGcatering.com>.