

Volume 3  
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# Wine Trail Traveler Newsletter

## Temecula

*“land where the sun shines through the mist”*

Temecula Valley is located in southern California and home to more than 25 wineries. In late February Wine Trail Traveler visited 23 of these wineries and discovered great wine, a great experience, wonderful owners, winemakers and chefs. These wineries are very welcoming and offer visitors a great experience. The experience of visiting wineries in Temecula is one of the best regions that Wine trail Traveler has visited. Temecula is a Native American word meaning, “land where the sun shines through the mist.” The mornings were occasionally misty, but soon the sun shone through. The temperatures in late February were in the 60’s to 80’s, a great escape from the northern half of the country.

Temecula Valley is about an hour’s drive from San Diego and is located within an easy ninety-minute drive from Los Angeles. With about 20 million people within the southern California area, it is difficult to believe that many people do not know about the wineries in Temecula. Many of the wineries are located on Rancho California Road and within sight of each other. Others are only 15 to 20 minutes away. If you live outside of this



*View of Temecula wine country from Bella Vista Winery.*

region, you may find it easy to fly into San Diego or Los Angeles and drive to Temecula. There are many lodging choices in Temecula. Some wineries have inns and there are bed and breakfasts in the wine country. About five miles from the wineries in the city of Temecula, there are several chain hotels.

The region is home to over 1,500 acres of vineyards. The oldest vines in Temecula were planted in the late 1960’s and early 1970’s. As is common with other areas where grapes are grown, experimenting with new grape varieties is common. Today the grape varieties that grow well

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*Old vines weeping, a sign that spring will come soon.*

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Virtual Visitor Center

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are Viognier, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Gris, different grapes from the Muscat family, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot, Malbec, Syrah, Grenache and Tempranillo. Many other varietal grapes are also planted including a variety from Eastern Europe.

Several winery owners mentioned the weather and climate. Although the temperatures can climb into the low 100's during summer days, the night temperatures cool off which is excellent for grape growing. Wind from the ocean sweeps through Rainbow Gap to cool the area.

Some consider Temecula wine country to be a "best kept secret." News of Temecula wine country is beginning to spread to Napa, Sonoma, and other areas of the country. At the 2008 California State Fair a Temecula winery, South Coast Winery was named Winery of the Year. South Coast entered 29 wines and won awards for 24 of their wines. South Coast is a destination site for visitors offering lodging, a spa, restaurant, gift shop and a large selection of enjoyable wines.

Visitors to the area wineries will discover a large range of wineries all with a unique appeal. Stop at boutique, petite or large wineries. Include a visit to a winery that calls itself a "cult" winery – Briar Rose. Briar Rose features a very special experience in a replica of Walt Disney's Briar Rose Cottage. All tastings at Briar Rose are by appointment only. Many of the wineries have delightful areas for events including weddings, birthdays and anniversaries.

Some of the larger facilities include restaurants, which focus on the wine and food experience. The chefs work with winemakers and owners to prepare a menu that pairs well with the wines. We enjoyed lunch at several winery restaurants, including: Baily Winery, Callaway Winery, Falkner Winery, Ponte Winery, Thorton Winery and Wilson Creek Winery. Each lunch was paired with wine and we enjoyed exceptional wines, food and service.

We believe you will enjoy a visit to Temecula and will want to return time and again.

K.S. & T.S.



*Callaway Winery's restaurant offers gourmet dining outside. Enjoy great meals and wine.*

## Next Time in Vegas

Nevada may not be known for their wine regions, but that doesn't mean that a trip to Las Vegas doesn't have to include wine tasting. One hour from the strip is Pahrump Valley Winery. This new winery released the first red commercially produced wine in Nevada made from vinefera grapes grown in Nevada. Pahrump Valley Winery was purchased by Bill and Gretchen Loken. Originally an investment opportunity, they have since been bitten by the bug and plan to keep the winery. They traveled to Temecula to observe wineries in that wine region. Gretchen took winemaking courses and tends the vineyard. An additional 1,000 vines will be planted this year. If you thought the area close to Las Vegas was all desert, Pahrump is a Shoshone word that means "water rock." Grapes do well in this area of Nevada. In addition to creating wines, the winery also has a restaurant. The next time you're in Vegas, steal away for a few hours and visit Pahrump Valley Winery.

If you can't tear away from the strip, you can experience a tasting room at The Wine Cellar in the Rio. From the slot machine area, an iron stairs leads down to a brick and stone room reminiscent of chateau wine cellars. You will have an opportunity to purchase among twenty-five wine flights. Prices of the flights range from \$12 to \$99. There are three wines served in each flight in three different glasses. You can taste and compare the three wines. There are several seating areas available to enjoy a glass of wine. If you prefer, amble through the wine library and notice a 1924 Mouton Rothschild and a bottle of Madeira from Thomas Jefferson's cellar.

T.S.



*Vineyards, gardens and gazebos make Pahrump Valley Winery a pleasant escape from the Vegas strip.*

# Wine Trail Traveler Partners

## Colorado



**Balistreri Vineyards**  
1946 E. 66th Ave.  
Denver, Colorado 80229



**Garfield Estates Vineyard & Winery**  
3572 G Road  
Palisade, Colorado 81526



**Garlic Mike's**  
2674 Hwy 135  
Gunnison, Colorado 81230  
970-641-2493



**Garlic Mike's**  
103 Rose Lane  
Montrose, Colorado 81401  
970-249-4381

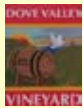


**Two Rivers Winery & Chateau**  
2087 Broadway  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81503



**The Wine Country Inn**  
777 Grande River Drive  
Palisade, CO 81526  
888.855.8330

## Maryland



**Dove Valley Vineyards and Winery**  
645 Harrington Road  
Rising Sun, MD 21911



**Fiore Winery**  
3026 Whiteford Road  
Pylesville, MD 21132

## Michigan



**Black Star Farms**  
10844 E. Revold Rd.  
Suttons Bay, Michigan 49682



**Chateau Chantal**  
15900 Rue de Vin  
Traverse City, MI 49686



**Country Hermitage Bed & Breakfast**  
7710 US 31 N  
Williamsburg, Michigan 49690  
231-938-5930



**The Inn at Black Star Farms**  
10844 E. Revold Rd.  
Suttons Bay, Michigan 49682

## New York



**The Halsey House**  
2057 Trumansburg Road  
Trumansburg, NY 14886  
Phone: 800-387-5590



**Masten Designs**  
2710 Astoria Blvd. Apt. 2C  
Astoria NY 11102



**Three Brothers Wineries & Estates**  
623 Lerch Road,  
Geneva, NY 14456

## Ohio



**Ferrante Winery**  
5585 N River Road W (State Rt. 307)  
Geneva, Ohio 44041



**Ferrante Winery & Ristorante**  
5585 N River Road W (State Rt. 307)  
Geneva, Ohio 44041



**Grand River Cellars**  
5750 South Madison Rd. (Route 528)  
Madison, Ohio 44057



**Laurello Vineyards**  
4573 State Route 307 East,  
Geneva, Ohio 44041



**Winery at Versailles**  
6572 St Rt 47  
Versailles, Ohio 45380

## Oregon



**Kramer Vineyards**  
26830 NW Olson Road  
Gaston, OR 97119-8039



**Redhawk Winery**  
2995 Michigan City Lane NW  
Salem, Oregon 97304

## Wine Trail Traveler Partners

### Pennsylvania



**Paradox Vineyard**  
1833 Flint Hill Road  
Landenberg, PA 19350



**The Winery at Wilcox**  
1867 Mefferts Run Road  
Wilcox, Pennsylvania 15870



**Hilton Garden Inn, Kennett Square**  
815 E. Baltimore Pike  
Kennett Square, Pennsylvania 19348  
Phone (610) 444-9100

### Ontario, Canada



**Hilton Garden Inn,  
Niagara-on-the-Lake**  
500 York Road  
Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario  
L0S 1J0  
Phone 905-984-4200  
Toll free: 866-777-9877

### Virginia



**Barrel Oak Winery**  
3623 Grove Lane  
Delaplane, Virginia 20144



**Chateau O'Brien at Northpoint**  
3238 Rail Stop Road  
Markham, VA 22643



**Kluge Estate Winery & Vineyards**  
100 Grand Cru Drive  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902



**Pearmund Cellars**  
6190 Georgetown Road  
Broad Run, VA 20137



**Veritas Vineyard & Winery**  
145 Saddleback Farm  
Afton, Virginia 22920



**White Fences Vineyard & Winery**  
170 White Fences Drive  
Irvington, VA 22480



**The Winery at La Grange**  
4970 Antioch Road  
Haymarket, Virginia 20169