

Volume 3  
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May 2009

## Wine Trail Traveler Newsletter

### Hudson River Valley Wineries

The bucolic Hudson River Valley didn't seem so pastoral in early April. The few vineyards seen were still asleep and trees were reluctant to push forth their buds. In planning our trip it seemed that more wineries in the region were closed than open. We were able to visit a few wineries, though, in the two and a half days of this short visit.

Our first day took us to two wineries in Warwick. Driving through the farmland in this community, one immediately notices the black soil. This area has an abundance of produce due to the rich, black soils that provided a contrast to the surroundings even on a dreary day. Our first stop was at Demarest Hill Winery. The curving driveway up the hill went past a vineyard. Although Demarest makes wines, we quickly discovered that this was also a distillery and there is a large assortment of distilled products.

A short walk from the tasting room leads to the distillery. A wood fired still gleams in the light. Although quiet on the day of our visit, the still is used to produce alcohol used in a variety of products sold in the tasting room.



*Demarest Winery uses a wood fueled still to produce a large variety of distilled products.*



*Brotherhood, America's Oldest Winery also houses some of the oldest wine barrels.*

Our next trip led us to Warwick Valley Winery and Distillery. This is a larger production facility that produces 20,000 cases of hard cider. In addition to wines, Warwick Valley also uses their distillery to produce many distilled products.

Our second day took us north of Newburgh. We visited Whitecliff Vineyards a 70-acre vineyard and winery overlooking the Shawangunk Mountain chain with its white cliffs. The vineyards have plantings of Chardonnay, Cabernet Franc, Riesling and Pinot Noir as well as Seyval Blanc, Vignoles and Gamay Noir. A large deck adjacent to the tasting room provides a panoramic view of the white cliffs in the distance and is a great spot to enjoy a glass of wine.

The second visit of the day took us to Benmarl Winery. The drive to the tasting room passes plantings of Baco Noir. Grapes have been planted on this property for well over a century, although pulled up and replanted several times. Benmarl is in a period of new growth with new owners. The cave-like structure below the tasting room provides a sense of wine caves in Europe and California.

Wine caves on a much larger scale can be seen at Brotherhood, America's Oldest Winery in Washingtonville. The extensive cave system is under two buildings and a road. A section of the caves house a museum while the remainder of the caves house barrels. The museum is a good idea since the winery first opened in 1839 and has continuously produced wine since that time. There are many wine related artifacts from eras gone by. A fire destroyed the tasting room in 1999. Now Brotherhood is undergoing a period of regrowth and is becoming a premiere destination site. The tasting room is well planned out and a restaurant onsite will open soon.

T.S.

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Images  
of  
Spring



## Mother's Day Suggestions

May is a great month in the Northern hemisphere. The chance of frosts may occur but it is less likely. People not connected to agriculture need to keep in mind that agriculture is always affected by the whims of Mother Nature.

Mentioning Mother Nature brings to mind that Mother's Day is almost here. While it is great to think of Mom every day, somehow it just does not happen. Mothers are "can do" and "must do" people for their children. Beginning with changing diapers, walking them to school for the First Day of School, to encouraging them to fill out college or job applications mothers are always on the job. Don't forget the scratches that need to be blown so that the sting goes away and the shoulder to cry on when they have their first breakup. Mother's Day is the one day of the year to make special for your mom. You are never too young or too old to show your appreciation and love for that special person in your life.

A surprise trip to a winery for your Mother would be a wonderful experience. If visiting a winery on Mother's Day is not feasible, maybe you can make a trip to a winery tasting room and purchase a gift for your Mom. Many tasting rooms have unusual gift finds that may or may not be wine related. If your mother enjoys wine, gift baskets including wine may be purchased. Another option is to create your own individual coupon good for a visit to a winery.

Consider a gift of a grapevine. Many garden centers will have two or three varieties of grapes to choose between. They are inexpensive and can be a constant source of enjoyment during the warm weather months.

Another activity is cooking for Mom on Mother's Day. (Just remember to clean the kitchen before Mom gets to see it!) When we suggested to Merrill Bonarrigo of Messina Hof Winery and Resort in Bryan, Texas that we wanted to add a recipe to our May newsletter for Mother's Day, she quickly suggested breakfast in bed for Mom. Many thanks to Merrill and Paul Bonarrigo who provided the Eggs Florentine recipe suggestion for Mother's Day!

K.S.

# Food and Wine

## Recipe with Wine

### Eggs Florentine

#### Ingredients

2 T butter  
1 c fresh spinach  
3 c heavy whipping cream  
¼ c Messina Hof Pinot Grigio  
2 t granulated garlic  
Salt and pepper to taste  
4 slices Canadian bacon, warmed  
2 English muffins, split and toasted  
4 eggs, poached  
4 T shredded cheddar cheese

#### Directions:

1. In a saucepan, heat butter; add spinach and cook until it begins to wilt.
2. Add cream, wine and garlic; reduce until sauce thickens. Season with salt and pepper.
3. Place a slice of Canadian bacon on each English muffin half; top with a poached egg, spinach cream sauce and cheddar cheese.
4. Serve with breakfast potatoes.

#### Serves 2

Recipe from Vineyard Cuisine: Meals & Memories from Messina Hof, Merrill & Paul Bonarrigo, Bright Sky Press, Albany, Texas, 2007. Used with permission from Merrill & Paul Bonarrigo





# Wine Trail Traveler Partners

## California



Temecula Valley Quality Wine Alliance  
951-526-4540



**Briar Rose**  
41720 Calle Cabrillo  
Temecula, California 92592



**Keyways Vineyard & Winery**  
37338 De Portola Road  
Temecula, California 92592



**Thornton Winery**  
32575 Rancho California Road  
Temecula, CA

## 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

## Maryland



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

## Michigan



**Bucci Ristorante**  
20217 Mack Ave.  
Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

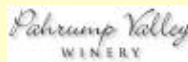


**Country Hermitage Bed & Breakfast**  
7710 US 31 N  
Williamsburg, Michigan 49690



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

## Nevada



**Pahrump Valley Winery**  
3810 Winery Road  
Pahrump, Nevada 89048

## 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



**North Fork Wine Tours**  
PO Box 805  
Greenport, NY 11944



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



May 30th & 31st Saturday and Sunday  
10:00 am - 6:00 pm  
At the York Fairgrounds in York Pennsylvania.

Visit  
<http://yorkwinefest.com/>

## Wine Trail Traveler Partners

### 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

### Pennsylvania



#### Paradocx 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

### Texas



#### Brennan Vineyards

802 South Austin Street  
Comanche, Texas 76442

### 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



#### Miracle Valley Vineyard

3661 Double J Lane  
Delaplane, VA 20144



#### Pearmund Cellars

6190 Georgetown Road  
Broad Run, VA 20137



#### Three Fox Vineyards

10100 Three Fox Lane  
Delaplane, VA 20144



#### Veritas Vineyard & Winery

145 Saddleback Farm  
Afton, Virginia 22920



#### Vint Hill Craft Winery

7150 Lineweaver Road  
Vint Hill, Virginia 20187



#### White Fences Vineyard & Winery

170 White Fences Drive  
Irvington, VA 22480



#### The Winery at La Grange

4970 Antioch Road  
Haymarket, Virginia 20169