



WILLAMETTE VALLEY WINE

CONTACT | *Emily Petterson*

EMAIL | *emily@ekpmedia.com*

PHONE | 503.550.8161

WHAT'S NEW IN THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY

SPRING 2018

New openings and story ideas in Oregon's Willamette Valley wine region.

New Openings

Domaine Serene's Portland Wine Lounge

Acclaimed Dundee Hills producer Domaine Serene now has a tasting room in downtown Portland. Their wine lounge, located in the historic Sentinel Hotel, features Pinot noir and Chardonnay from their own label as well as sister Burgundian labels Chateau de la Crée and Maison Evenstad. Visitors can enjoy award-winning wines in one of the city's most historic buildings, Viennese-inspired and originally constructed in 1909. The lounge is open to the public Friday-Sunday and available for private events during the remainder of the week. Opened April 13, 2018.

Et Fille Wines

Newberg-based Et Fille Wines is moving to Dundee. The label, started by father-daughter duo Howard and Jessica Mozeico in 2003, will open the new space to the public this summer. Second-generation vintner and Pinot noir specialist Jessica Mozeico carries on the winemaking legacy of her late father, crafting elegant, critically acclaimed wines from five different Willamette Valley vineyards. Opening Summer 2018.

Furioso

The remodel at Furioso Vineyards in Dundee is nearly complete. Owner Giorgio Furioso's new building design is set to blend in with the surrounding vines seamlessly, shaped like a ship's prow and outfitted with breathtaking glass walls on all sides. The tasting room rests above a barrel room, with the buzz of wine production happening right next door. Late spring and summer will be ideal for the Furioso remodel, which will have a brand new 400-square-foot piazza for open air tasting. Opening Spring 2018.



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New Openings Continued

Lange Winery

Lange Winery welcomed its 30th anniversary in style with its new tasting room atop its historic Dundee Hills estate. The structure, featuring an angled deck with incredible mountain views and a state-of-the-art chef's kitchen, creates an idyllic backdrop for memorable tasting flights and occasional culinary events. Opened early Spring 2018.

The Laurelwood

Ponzi Vineyards' newest hospitality space is a toast to the pioneering label's nearly 50-year history and is named after the dominant soil type of its scenic Chehalem Mountains site. The modern and welcoming space marries warm woody tones with the sleekness of steel, concrete and glass. Conceived and created by Fogelstrom Design Build, the eye-catching building caters to parties, workshop gatherings, private meals and weddings. Former Park Kitchen chef de cuisine David Sapp leads all culinary efforts at Ponzi, including special events at the Laurelwood. Opened Spring 2018.

Evasion Brewing

One of the Valley's newest breweries, Evasion, focuses on gluten-free ales from its new headquarters and tap house in McMinnville. The tasting room is open Saturdays and offers in-house pints or growler fills for the road. The core beer lineup includes an IPA, double IPA, blonde ale and stout. Evasion Brewing joins an emerging beer community set in the core of Oregon wine country. Opened Winter 2018.

Atticus Hotel

Welcoming its first guests in April, the Willamette Valley's newest hotel offers a unique, luxury life-style experience in the heart of downtown McMinnville. The 36-room Atticus Hotel features original artwork, goods and furnishings from area craftspeople as well as one-of-a-kind rooms like a Penthouse and the Valley's only Luxury Bunkhouse. The building's raised ceilings and attention to details are an homage to the rich architectural history of downtown McMinnville. Guests and passersby alike are encouraged to check out the Atticus' house restaurant, Bless Your Heart Burgers, focused on gourmet Americana fare along with an expansive cocktail program. Opened April 2018.



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STORY IDEAS

Southern Willamette Valley

The Valley stretches 100 miles from Portland to Eugene, the latter a college town widely known as the home of Prefontaine. The area is also known for its world-class Pinot noir with its rich winegrowing community that exists in the foothills just beyond the town of Eugene. Labels like Silvan Ridge, King Estate, Sweet Cheeks, Antiquum Farm, Iris Vineyards and Benton Lane are turning tasters' heads toward the Valley's newest frontier. Rarely crowded and an enjoyable flight or train ride away from Portland, the southern Willamette Valley still feels like an undiscovered Oregon wine country gem.

Pinot Gris: The Ultimate Summer Sipper

The first Pinot gris planted in the New World took place in the Willamette Valley at Eyrie Vineyards. Today, it's the most planted white varietal in the region, a genetic mutation of Pinot noir known for its vibrant pear and apple notes and pleasant acidity. Easy-drinking summer wines do not need to sacrifice depth and complexity for refreshing nature, as Willamette Valley Pinot gris proves. Wonderful chilled by the glass on a warm afternoon or served alongside pasta, grilled pork and poultry or fresh seafood, Pinot gris is lively, flexible and easy to find among Valley restaurants and tasting rooms.

The Wine Effect

The Oregon Wine Industry now has an annual impact approaching the \$6 billion mark. Wine accounts for some 30,000 jobs in Oregon, where 725 wineries (and counting) now exist. In 2016, about two labels per month opened and total planted land surpassed 30,000 acres. Per the industry's green ethos, it's estimated that 48% of all Oregon's vineyards are certified sustainable, ensuring the trade's bright future. Pinot noir continues to be the focal point of the state's industry, particularly in the large Willamette Valley region; however, a growing number of producers are experimenting with other varietals, revealing the Willamette Valley's tremendous potential for wines like Gamay noir, Riesling, Gewurztraminer and Arneis.



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Story Ideas Continued

Et Fille Turns 15

Et Fille Wines celebrates its fifteen year anniversary with library wines at its tasting room from May through August. The small but storied label was launched in 2003 by Howard and Jessica Mozeico, the former a software engineer who made hobby wine on the side and the latter a one-time biotech marketer. The father and daughter operation attracted some of the better critical scores by a small-batch producer in the Willamette Valley, and Et Fille became synonymous with balanced and nuanced Pinot noir. With the passing of Howard last spring, Jessica carries the second-generation label forward, with a new facility in Dundee set to open this summer.

Willamette Valley's First Perfect Score

The region's first 100-point score from *Wine Enthusiast* has been awarded to Patricia Green Cellars. It's a fitting parting gift from the late winemaker, Patty Green, who passed away unexpectedly last fall. The wine, the 2016 Bonshaw Block Pinot noir, represents a new landmark in Willamette Valley wine lore. Green was a beloved member of the Oregon wine scene, having worked her way up from grape-picker at Hillcrest Vineyard in southern Oregon to winemaker at celebrated labels like Adelsheim, Torii Mor and her own eponymous outfit.

Taste of Community

Collaboration and social responsibility are cornerstone principles in the Willamette Valley. From now until June 30, visitors have the opportunity to explore this side of wine country by choosing a Taste of Community Loop dedicated to a cause close to the hearts of participating wineries. Each loop is made up of neighboring wineries and lodging or restaurants who have teamed up to support a local nonprofit, with donations from tasting fees or proceeds from a special flight or offering during the spring season. Nonprofit partners include SNACK (Student Nutrition and Activity Clinic for Kids), which offers nutrition and fitness education; Give A Little Foundation, which provides immediate assistance for struggling youth and families; Transition Projects Portland, bringing support and shelter to Portland's most vulnerable residents; and the vineyard and winery workers' healthcare project ¡Salud!



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Story Ideas Continued

Cooper Mountain's 40th Anniversary

One of the Portland metro area's oldest producers turns 40 this year. Cooper Mountain Vineyards, long known for its organic and biodynamic vineyard practices, has helped elevate the region's Chardonnay and Pinot noir prowess since its inception in 1978. The former horse barn in rural Beaverton continues to be owned and operated by the Gross family. The winemaker, Gilles de Domingo, hails from Bordeaux and is approaching his fifteenth vintage with Cooper Mountain. The combination of deep roots and sustainable farming situated just 15 miles southwest of Portland makes Cooper Mountain a convenient taste of the Valley's wealthy wine heritage.

Wine University

Domaine Serene owners Ken and Grace Evenstad recently donated \$6 million to Linfield University's wine education program. The biggest wine studies gift in state history goes to the institution home to the nation's first interdisciplinary bachelor's degree in wine studies. The McMinnville school resides in the heart of Willamette Valley wine country and will use some of the funds to construct a new wine lab for industry research and development. The unprecedented financial gift will elevate formal education options for a flourishing wine industry.

The Italian Connection

By now, most know about the many French connections Willamette Valley wine country shares with its sibling Old World region of Burgundy. There are intriguing Italian alliances as well, such as [L'Angolo Estate](#) in rural Newberg. Winemaker Chase Renton learned his craft while in Italy and continues to make a Sangiovese in Tuscany that's only available domestically at L'Angolo's tasting room. Just down the road is [Red Ridge Farms](#), home to an expansive olive grove and a commercial mill – a slice of Italy dropped atop the Dundee Hills. Cap an Italian themed day off at [Alloro Vineyard](#) in Sherwood, where award-winning wines are served before a gorgeous, Mediterranean-inspired tasting room and garden. Don't miss [Ponzi Vineyards'](#) Arneis and Dolcetto wines traditionally offered in the Northern Piedmont region of Italy (and a recent planting of Nebbiolo). [Apolloni Vineyard'](#)s Italian roots originate in the Arezzo region of Tuscany, encompassing a winemaking tradition dating back over 150 years carried on by first-generation American winemaker Alfredo Apolloni.



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EVENTS

I Love Gamay

May 20-21, 2018

One of the Willamette Valley's most buzzed-about varieties deservedly has its own festival. I Love Gamay takes place May 20-21 at the Nightwood in Portland and features more than 30 producers spanning Oregon, California and France. Gamay noir, the delicate red made famous by the Beaujolais region, was first planted in the Willamette Valley in 1988 by Amity Vineyards. The varietal's sprightly nature and fruity, food-friendly nature make it perfect for spring and summer imbibing. This year's producers include Anne Amie, Evening Land, Brick House, Grochau Cellars and many more.

Memorial Weekend in the Wine Country

May 26-28, 2018

Oregon wine country's longstanding preface to summer takes place Memorial Day Weekend, when more than 150 producers open their doors for special tastings and holiday events. The long weekend pleases every palate, with barrel tastings, live music, vineyard tours and picnic opportunities rounding out a festive three-day stretch. With vineyards leafy and every shade of green on display, it's one of the prettiest times of year to visit the Valley. This year's celebration occurs May 26-28 at participating wineries and tasting rooms.

Small Producer Speakeasy

May 26, 2018

Pike Road Wines has put together an intriguing lineup of local producers to pour from their Carlton tasting room on Saturday, May 26th. The afternoon is devoted to small producers Antiquum Farm, Helioterra Wines, Matzinger Davies, Project M, and Rocky Point Cellars. Like a speakeasy, this is a pseudo secretive event given the extensive small-batch talent on display in one courtyard. Attendees are sure to run into scarce wines and likely to come away with a new favorite producer or two.



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Uncommon Wine Festival

July 7-8, 2018

Back for its ninth consecutive year, the Uncommon Wine Festival features under-the-radar producers and their hard-to-find Oregon wines. Established and hosted by Vista Hills Vineyard in Dayton, this year's gathering features a handful of micro labels, including Hundred Suns, Maloof Wine, Leah Jorgensen Cellars, Fossil & Fawn, Esther Glen and more. Vista Hills will pour some of its own smaller production, more experimental offerings. The single-day affair affords a rare opportunity to taste and purchase a broad spectrum of lesser-known wine treasures.

Fueled by Fine Wine

July 8, 2018

Quite possibly the most scenic half-marathon in existence, Fueled by Fine Wine celebrates its ninth straight installment in 2018. The course, which changes annually, winds through Willamette Valley vineyards, orchards, farms and empty country roads. Participants are greeted at the finish line by live music, a keepsake logo glass and a tent full of some of the area's most beloved wineries pouring their wines. This year's race, open to both the competitive and recreational crowd, commences Sunday, July 8th in the Dundee Hills.

Counter Culture

July 26, 2018

Anne Amie Vineyards plays host to a wildly popular pre-IPNC (International Pinot Noir Celebration) event otherwise known as Counter Culture. More than a dozen wineries join fourteen esteemed restaurants for inventive bites and memorable sips. There is a significant international flare to both the wines and bites, with chefs looking to emulate street food from all over the planet. This year's event takes place Thursday, July 26th and features wineries including Archery Summit, Lenne Estate and Gypsy Dancer Wines alongside sought-after eateries like Pok Pok, Ned Ludd, Pura Vida and Wares.



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IPNC

July 27-29, 2018

The International Pinot Noir Celebration (IPNC) has taken place annually in the Willamette Valley since 1987. Every year, the gathering of winemakers and chefs featuring rare wines and special events furthers the region's reputation within the global wine hall of fame. This year marks the event's 32nd consecutive installment and will highlight more than seventy labels along with educational seminars, grand dinners, intimate tastings, the famed Salmon Bake and more. Widely considered the planet's premiere Pinot Noir event, IPNC is based in and around the charming wine country town of McMinnville.

Bounty of Yamhill County

August 24-26, 2018

For three days in late August, Yamhill County restaurants and wineries host a series of culinary soirees. With themes ranging from canning foods to library sparkling wine tastings, Bounty of Yamhill County covers the mid-Valley's colorful gastronomical presence. Standout guests this year include Portland chef John Gorham, Recipe's Paul Bachand and pioneering labels like Erath, Sokol Blosser and Adelsheim. The weekend concludes with a walk-around feast on August 26th, featuring wines from 25 area producers and bites concocted by 20 chefs.

Oregon Wine Country Half Marathon

September 1-2, 2018

Since 2010, the Wine Country Half Marathon has treated racers to a breathtaking course beginning at Stoller Family Estate and finishing at the quaint wine country town of Carlton. A post-race wine and music festival serves as just reward for participants, who can take in some of the area's best wineries. Taking place in early September, this race boasts some of the best weather conditions the Valley can offer, coupled with vigorous vineyard rows just weeks away from harvest.