



## **COUNTY OF LAKE**

### **MARKETING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**January 14, 2009**

### **2009 WINE EVENTS IN LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

ONGOING

#### **Meet the Winemaker Series, *Upper Lake***

*First Friday of each month*

The Blue Wing Saloon & Café hosts the owner and/or winemaker of one of the great Lake County wineries whose vintages are featured on the wine list on the first Friday of each month. Special menu items for that day are carefully paired with the featured wines. Blue Wing Saloon & Café. 9520 Main Street. (707) 275-2233, [www.bluewingsaloon.com](http://www.bluewingsaloon.com)

#### **First Friday Fling, *Lakeport***

*First Friday of each month*

Reception spotlighting artists currently showing in the gallery, with music, hors d'oeuvres, and wine sponsored by one of Lake County's wineries on the first Friday of each month. Student gallery also open. 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Main Street Gallery, 325 N. Main Street. (707) 263-6658, [www.lakecountyartscouncil.com](http://www.lakecountyartscouncil.com)

#### **Winemaker Dinner Series, *Kelseyville***

*First Tuesday of each month*

The Saw Shop Gallery Bistro features a local or regional wine paired with a special menu highlighting the wine on the first Tuesday of each month. Dine al fresco on the wraparound porch or inside where walls of the circa-1902 building are festooned with local art. Saw Shop Gallery Bistro, 3825 Main Street. (707) 278-0129, [www.sawshopbistro.com](http://www.sawshopbistro.com)

- more -

**Lake County Wine Tours, *Countywide***

*Year round*

Guests taste award-winning wines at a variety of tasting rooms, as well as out in the vineyards amid spectacular views of Clear Lake and the surrounding countryside. Tours include comfortable seating in a 16-passenger motor coach, a knowledgeable guide, all tasting fees, and a gourmet lunch to further stimulate the palate. Reservations required. (707) 998-4471, [www.lakecountywinetours.com](http://www.lakecountywinetours.com)

**A Taste of Lake County Wine Tour, *Countywide***

*Year round*

Tours wrap visitors around Clear Lake, stopping at a wonderful group of wineries along the way. Enjoy picturesque views of the lake during a private vineyard tour and tasting; sip wines straight from the barrel during a fun and informative winery tour and a stop for lunch at a local favorite. Private charter wine tours available, giving visitors a chance to explore hidden treasures. (707) 987-1920; (888) 987-AERO, [www.aeroshuttleservice.com](http://www.aeroshuttleservice.com)

**Horseshoes and Corkscrews - The Wine Country Trail Ride at Cowboy Hideaway Lodge, *Upper Lake***

*Year round*

Offering a California Wine and Equine Tour, Cowboy Hideaway is a 750-acre ranch studded with woods and vineyards and exceptional views of Clear Lake from a newly-built log cabin lodge that features comfortable rooms, large inviting sitting areas with enormous fireplaces, a commercial quality kitchen, and beautiful sunsets from the outdoor decks. On three- to six-day guided tours, guests ride through the dramatic scenery of Lake County vineyards, ancient redwood groves, along the Pacific Coast, and even exclusive rides on Ridgewood Ranch, home of Seabiscuit. Guests enjoy local and regional cuisine, including private tours and tastings of award-winning wines in Lake, Sonoma, and Mendocino counties. (707) 328-3192, [www.cowboyhideaway.com](http://www.cowboyhideaway.com)

**Langtry Estate and Vineyard Tours, *Middletown***

*Year round*

Guided tours of the historic vineyard travel to the higher elevation of Tephra Ridge for spectacular views of Guenoc Valley. Tours are offered Tuesday through Saturday, 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Includes picnic-style lunch in the vineyard and wine tasting. \$45 per person. 48-hours advance reservations required. 21000 Butts Canyon Road. (707) 987-2385, [www.langtryestate.com](http://www.langtryestate.com)

**Tulip Hill Winery Tours, *Nice***

*Year round*

Guided tour of the winery's production of world-class wines offered every Saturday at 1:30 p.m. Admission is free. Highway 20 at Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, [www.tuliphillwinery.com](http://www.tuliphillwinery.com)

**Tuscan Village Music & Art Series, Lower Lake**

*Year round*

Live music every Friday evening by Lake County performers. Great food, wine tasting, and arts and crafts.

Outdoors in the orchard during summer; inside other seasons. Presented by 2Goombas Deli and Terrill Cellars.

Main Street. (707) 994-3354, [www.terrillcellars.com](http://www.terrillcellars.com)

**Fondue Friday, Upper Lake**

*January – February*

Each Friday in January and February, the Lake County Wine Studio (LCWS) will offer a selection of fondue cheese pots, along with different Lake County wines. LCWS pours wines from 19 Lake County wineries with a rotating tasting menu of eight to 10 wines each week, with more than 40 wines available for purchase by the bottle. LCWS, 9505 Main Street. (707) 275-8030, [www.lakecountywinestudio.com](http://www.lakecountywinestudio.com)

**Wine 101, Kelseyville**

*January 19 – February 23*

In this six-week course, Stephanie Cruz-Green, sommelier and owner of Focused on Wine, will instruct students on proper tasting techniques while sampling wines from Lake County, the United States, and around the world. In the last class, students will taste wines with food. Mondays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Class size limited; \$95 for advance registration. 3940 Main Street. (707) 279-2112.

**A Taste of France, Kelseyville**

*January 20 – February 24*

Taste some of the finest Grand Cru French wines from the Champagne, Burgundy, Chablis, Loire, Alsace, and Bordeaux regions in this six-week course. Stephanie Cruz-Green, sommelier and owner of Focused on Wine, will give students background information on the different wines and their regions. Space is limited; \$130 for advance registration. Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. 3940 Main Street. (707) 279-2112.

**Concerts with Conversations, Upper Lake**

*January – May*

Monthly concert series January through May on the last Friday of the month features live music in an intimate setting. The evening begins with sumptuous hors d'oeuvres and wine, followed by an informal concert and dialogue with the artist. A benefit for the Soper-Reese Community Theatre Fund for the creation of a state-of-the-art performing arts center in Lakeport. Tallman Hotel, 9550 Main Street, Upper Lake. Reservations are suggested as seating is limited. (707) 275-2244, [www.tallmanhotel.com](http://www.tallmanhotel.com)

**Historic Family Ranch Day Trip, Clearlake Oaks**

*April – October*

Guests' journey begins with a 90-minute narrated mule-drawn wagon ride that meanders through a valley rich with history, wildlife, and magnificent wildflowers during the spring. The ride ends with an authentic chuckwagon barbecue, complete with Dutch oven cobbler. Complimentary Lake County wine is provided. April through October, by reservation only. Eleven Roses Ranch. (707) 998-4471, [www.elevenrosesranch.com](http://www.elevenrosesranch.com)

**Tulip Hill Winery Concert in the Garden, Nice**

*May – September*

Monthly summer event series outdoors in the garden at Tulip Hill Winery May through September, one Saturday per month. Bring a picnic and a blanket and enjoy music in the garden; wine is available for purchase. Small fee. 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, [www.tuliphillwinery.com](http://www.tuliphillwinery.com)

**Focused on Wine Specialty Tastings, Kelseyville**

*May - September*

Enjoy exploring the world through wine tasting as sommelier Stephanie Cruz-Green selects local, domestic, and international wines to highlight on the first Thursday of each month, May – September. Includes tasting notes for each wine and more. \$12 per person; discounts for advance ticket sales. 3940 Main Street. (707) 279-2112.

**Kelseyville Certified Farmers' Market, Kelseyville**

*May – October*

Local farmers offer their finest, freshest produce, eggs, baked goods, and cheese. Live music, 8:30 a.m. to noon, Saturdays, May through October at Steele Wines. Tasting room opens with the market. 4350 Thomas Drive. (707) 263-4211, [www.lakecountyfarmersfinest.org](http://www.lakecountyfarmersfinest.org)

**Concert in the Vineyard Series, Kelseyville**

*June – October*

The Moore Family Winery hosts a concert in the vineyard series one Saturday per month, June through October. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.; concert begins at 7:00 p.m. Bring a blanket or a low-back lounge chair. Wine and food available for purchase. 11990 Bottle Rock Road. (707) 738-0507, [www.moorefamilywinery.com](http://www.moorefamilywinery.com)

## JANUARY 2009

### **Moore Family Winery Crab Boil, Kelseyville**

*January 31*

Fresh hot crab, corn, artichokes and potatoes are served from a large pot to your table, accompanied by pasta, salad, French bread, and a glass of wine. \$55.00 per person or purchase a table for eight in advance and receive a VIP table with two bottles of wine. Portions of the proceeds will go to the Cobb Mountain School Garden Project. 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., reservations required. 11990 Bottle Rock Road. (707) 738-0507, [www.moorefamilywinery.com](http://www.moorefamilywinery.com)

## FEBRUARY 2009

### **Valentine's Eve Winemaker Dinner, Cobb**

*February 13*

Each course of this sumptuous dinner is paired with a different award-winning Wildhurst wine, which follows a wine tasting reception. Held at Rob Roy Golf Club in Cobb. Reservations required. (800) 595-WINE, [www.wildhurst.com](http://www.wildhurst.com)

### **Wine & Chocolate, Lakeport**

*February 14*

Third-annual benefit for programs and activities of the Lake Family Resource Center. Taste ultra-premium Lake County wines – everything from pear champagne to award-winning Syrah and Port – and luscious chocolates masterfully paired by Sommelier Stephanie Cruz-Green, who will lead workshops on wine sensory and pairing food with wine. The event also will feature music, a silent auction, and wine store. Tickets: \$35 advance; \$40 at door. Noon to 4:00 p.m. Mt. Konocti Growers, 2550 Big Valley Road. (707) 262-1611, (888) 775-8336.

### **Oysters & Sauvignon Blanc, Kelseyville**

*February 21*

Fans of oysters on the half-shell, rejoice! The Moore Family Winery hosts this special event with all you can eat oysters paired with their Sauvignon Blanc served in a logo glass to keep. \$20; 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. 11990 Bottle Rock Road. (707) 738-0507, [www.moorefamilywinery.com](http://www.moorefamilywinery.com)

## MARCH 2009

### **Pruning and Pastries, Lower Lake**

*March 7*

Six Sigma Ranch, Vineyards & Winery hosts "Pruning 101," from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Vineyard Manager David Weiss demonstrates hands-on winter pruning. \$10 per person, pastries will be served. Reserve a space by March 5. 13372 Spruce Grove Road. (707) 994-2086, [www.sixsigmaranch.com](http://www.sixsigmaranch.com)

**St. Patrick's Day Dinner, Kelseyville**

*March 14*

The Moore Family Winery hosts a St. Patrick's Day celebration at the tasting room; catered by Molly Brennans, a local Irish pub in Lakeport. The three-course meal, with a choice of appetizer and entrée, includes dessert and a complimentary glass of wine. Live Irish music. \$40 per person, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. 11990 Bottle Rock Road. (707) 738-0507, [www.moorefamilywinery.com](http://www.moorefamilywinery.com)

**Wine Tasting and Art Show, Clearlake**

*March 14*

Seventeenth-annual event featuring wine by local vintners, exhibitions by local artists, and live music. Sponsored by the Park Study Club; a benefit for the club's scholarship fund. \$20 per ticket. 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Best Western El Grande Inn, 15135 Lakeshore Drive. (707) 995-9316.

**Festival of Tulips, Nice**

*March 28 – 29*

Fifth-annual event features wine, food, and entertainment set amid Tulip Hill Winery's gardens blooming with 50,000 tulips imported from Holland. Admission includes a Tulip Hill wine glass for unlimited tastings, barrel tastings, sumptuous hors d'oeuvres, live music, winery tours, and dessert. Winery tours include the crush pad, cellar, and bottling room as the tour guide explains the winemaking process. \$25 in advance for each day; \$30 at the door. Special pricing for weekend tickets. Tulip Hill Winery, 4900 Bartlett Springs Road. (707) 274-9373, [www.tuliphillwinery.com](http://www.tuliphillwinery.com)

**Wine Tasting Basics, Kelseyville**

*March 29*

Enjoy the wines of the Moore Family Winery as sommelier Gary Johnson teaches the basics of wine tasting, served with hors d'oeuvres to compliment the wine. 11990 Bottle Rock Road. (707) 738-0507, [www.moorefamilywinery.com](http://www.moorefamilywinery.com)

**APRIL**

**Historic Family Ranch Day Trip: The Wildflower Tour, Clearlake Oaks**

*April 1 – 30*

Wildflowers are the highlight of April's daytrips as guests experience a 90-minute narrated mule-drawn wagon ride that meanders through a valley rich with history, wildlife, and other flora and ends with an authentic chuckwagon barbecue, complete with Dutch oven cobbler. Complimentary Lake County wine also is served. Eleven Roses Ranch. Reservations required. (707) 998-4471, [www.elevenrosesranch.com](http://www.elevenrosesranch.com)

**Girls Just Wanna Have Wine, Kelseyville**

*April 3*

A fun event to celebrate women, Wildhurst Vineyards invites sisters, friends, mothers, and aunts to join one another for an evening of wine tasting and celebration. Appetizers will be served; small fee. Wildhurst Vineyards, 3855 Main Street. (707) 279-4302, (800) 595-WINE, [www.wildhurst.com](http://www.wildhurst.com)

**JUNE**

**Lake County Home Winemakers Festival, Kelseyville**

*June 27*

Seventh-annual festival for tasting the winemaking efforts of more than 40 Northern California amateurs, as well as those from leading Lake County commercial wineries; tasters vote on their favorites. Live music will set the mood and plentiful food from local purveyors will be available. Sponsored by and a benefit for Clear Lake Performing Arts; also sponsored by the Kelseyville Business Association. 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Main Street. Tasting is \$15 per person and includes a commemorative wine glass and a chance to vote on the winners. (707) 277-7076, [www.clearlakeperformingarts.org](http://www.clearlakeperformingarts.org)

**JULY**

**Lake County Wine Adventure, Countywide**

*July 25 – 26*

Fifth-annual adventure gives guests a chance to explore “The Undiscovered Wine Country” of California’s Lake County. Eventgoers can sample award-winning Lake County wines from more than 20 participating wineries plus mouth-watering hors d’oeuvres during this two-day event, which is held at wineries and tasting rooms passport-style throughout Lake County. Many locations offer barrel tastings, entertainment, and winery tours. After visiting participating wineries, wine “tourists” will become eligible for a raffle drawing. Purchase of two-day Adventure Ticket includes tasting at participating wineries and a logo wine glass. (800) 595-WINE (9463), [www.lakecountywineries.org](http://www.lakecountywineries.org)

**AUGUST**

**Taste of Lakeport, Lakeport**

*August 28*

Twelfth-annual winetasting event featuring food, wine tasting, live music, and dancing. Businesses in downtown Lakeport stay open late for the event, which also features hors d’oeuvres at the many tasting stations, as well as live music and dancing. Purchase of a tasting ticket includes a commemorative wine glass and a chance to win raffle prizes donated by the local businesses. Presented by Lakeport Main Street Association; a benefit for the

revitalization of downtown Lakeport. Main Street. 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. (707) 263-8843,  
[www.lakeportmainstreet.com](http://www.lakeportmainstreet.com)

## SEPTEMBER

### **Lake County Wine Auction, Kelseyville**

*September 18 – 19*

Tenth-annual wine auction and black-tie gala is a must-attend event that benefits local organizations and programs that support the arts, health, and community. Local and regional wineries provide ample wine-tasting opportunities while local purveyors serve gourmet foods. Guests can enjoy live music amid the buzz of a silent auction and the energy and excitement of a live auction and have the opportunity to enjoy other special events such as winemaker dinners scheduled throughout the weekend. Sponsored by the Lake County Wine Alliance. 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Buckingham Golf and Country Club, 2855 Eastlake Drive. Cost is \$100 per person. (707) 278-0129, [www.winealliance.org](http://www.winealliance.org)

### **Pear Specialty Drinks, Kelseyville**

*September 26*

In conjunction with the Kelseyville Pear Festival, sommelier Stephanie Cruz-Green will create wine-based pear cocktails, such as Pear-Tinis and Pear Bellinis, for festival-goers to enjoy. 3940 Main Street. (707) 279-2112.

### **Harvest Education, Lower Lake**

*September 26*

The Six Sigma Ranch vineyard team will lead a demonstration on “Harvest 101.” The event includes grape picking followed by a light lunch served with Six Sigma wines. Cost is \$25 per person. Reserve your spot by September 21. Six Sigma Winery, 13372 Spruce Grove Road. (707) 994-2086.

## OCTOBER 2009

### **Steele Wines Harvest Festival, Kelseyville**

*October 10 – 11*

Thirteenth-annual festival famous for its grape-stomping competition for kids and adults, as well as its Vineyard Run for Literacy — a certified 5K/10K run and 5K walk amid autumn-colored vineyards and orchards. Various musicians perform both days. Visitors also get to taste the wines of Steele’s extensive collection and enjoy the 4-H Club’s barbecue, as well as a myriad of vendor booths with plentiful food, fine art, arts and crafts, and other unique souvenirs and gifts. A kids’ corner features a storyteller and face painting. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. both days. Vineyard Run for Literacy will be held Sunday. Steele Wines, 4350 Thomas Drive. (707) 279-9475, [www.steelewines.com](http://www.steelewines.com)

## DECEMBER 2009

### **Dessert Wines & Bubbly, *Kelseyville***

*December 24 and December 31*

Celebrate the holiday season by sampling dessert wines including ports, late harvests, bubbly, and more.

Stephanie Cruz-Green, sommelier and owner of Focused on Wine, a boutique store and wine bar with a fine selection of cheeses, wines, and more, will create two flights – one for dessert wines, one for sparkling wines. \$10 per person. 3940 Main Street. (707) 279-2112.

Though Lake County is still often referred to as “The Undiscovered Wine Country,” its grape-growing history dates back to the late 1800s with Napa, Sonoma, and Mendocino as its next-door neighbors. The influence of the area’s temperate climate combines with the terroir imparted by its distinct volcanic soils to produce ultra-premium winegrapes that have attracted the interest and investment of several famous winemakers. Visitors will experience these award-winning wines poured in casual tasting rooms that reflect the area’s friendly, relaxed lifestyle. Lake County is part of the North Coast AVA, and within Lake County, five other AVAs exist — Clear Lake, Benmore Valley, Guenoc, and the recently approved Red Hills and High Valley AVAs.

Located in beautiful Northern California, Lake County is just two hours by car from the San Francisco Bay Area, the Sacramento Valley, and the Pacific Coast. Lake County is home to Clear Lake, the largest natural freshwater lake in California and possibly the oldest lake on the continent. Visitors to Lake County experience the state’s cleanest air basin, spectacular scenic beauty, fine wines, headliner concerts, and unsurpassed recreational opportunities — from hiking, biking, golf, and off-road adventures to boating, fishing, kayaking, birding, and even rockhounding. The local area code is 707. For visitor information, contact the Lake County Visitor Information Center at (800) 525-3743 or [www.lakecounty.com](http://www.lakecounty.com).

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