



COUNTY OF LAKE

MARKETING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 17, 2011

2012 WINE EVENTS, TASTINGS, AND TOURS LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

ONGOING EVENTS

Concerts with Conversations, Upper Lake

Last Saturday each month, January through May

Monthly concert series January – May features live music in an intimate setting with sumptuous hors d'oeuvres and wine. A benefit for the Soper-Reese Community Theatre Fund. An informal concert and dialogue with the artist follows wine, hearty appetizers, and coffee with dessert. 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tallman Hotel, 9550 Main Street. Reservations are suggested as seating is limited. (707) 275-2244, www.tallmanhotel.com

Tuscan Village Music & Art Series, Lower Lake

Fridays, year-round

Live music every Friday evening by great performers. Food, wine tasting, and arts and crafts. Outdoors in the orchard during nice weather; inside during other seasons. Presented by 2Goombas Deli and Terrill Cellars. \$5 suggested donation. Main Street. (707) 252-8444, www.terrillcellars.com

Fondue Friday, Upper Lake

Year-round by reservation

The Lake County Wine Studio (LCWS) offers a selection of fondue pots by 48-hour advance reservation, along with different Lake County wines. LCWS pours wines from more than two dozen Lake County wineries with a rotating tasting menu of eight to ten wines, with more than 40 wines available for purchase by the bottle. 9505 Main Street. (707) 275-8030, (707)293-8752.

Winemaker Dinner Series, Kelseyville

First Tuesday of each month (February – October only)

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

Meet the Winemaker Series, Upper Lake

Select Thursdays 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. 9520 Main Street. (707) 275-2233, www.bluewingsaloon.com

Art and Wine Reception, Upper Lake

First Friday and Saturday of each month (except January)

The Lake County Wine Studio (LCWS) showcases a local winery as the featured tasting for the evening. Local artists – photography, painting, and more – also are featured. 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. \$10.00 per person. 9505 Main Street. (707) 275-8030 or (707) 293-8752.

First Friday Fling, Lakeport

First Friday of each month

A reception spotlighting artists currently showing in the Main Street Gallery with music, hors d'oeuvres, and wine; student gallery open. Sponsored by the Lake County Arts Council. 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. 325 N. Main Street. Free. 707-263-6658, www.lakecountyartscouncil.com

Specialty Tasting & Tidbits, Kelseyville

First Thursday of the month, May through August

On the first Thursday of each month, Stephanie Cruz-Green, sommelier and owner of Focused on Wine, will offer a specialty wine tasting served with tasty tidbits and wine education pointers. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Focused on Wine, 3940 Main Street. (707) 279-2112, www.focusedonwine.com

Kelseyville Certified Farmers' Market, Kelseyville

Saturdays, May through October

Local farmers offer their finest, freshest produce, eggs, baked goods, and cheese. Live music. 8:30 a.m. to noon. Steele Wines, 4350 Thomas Drive. (707) 263-6076, www.lakecountyfarmersfinest.org

Concert in the Vineyard Series, Kelseyville

Monthly, Memorial Day through Labor Day

The Moore Family Winery hosts a family-friendly concert in the vineyard series on Saturdays during the summer. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Bring a blanket or a low-back lounge chair. Wine, food, and soft drinks available for purchase. \$15-\$30 per person. Kids 12 and under free. 11990 Bottle Rock Road. (707) 279-9279, www.moorefamilywinery.com

Local Cuisine Scene at Lake County Wine Studio, Upper Lake

Second Friday of each month, October through April (EXCEPTION – January's is the 20th).

Three-course gourmet appetizer and wine pairing featuring Lake County wines. Presented by Cache Creek Catering and Lake County Wine Studio. 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. \$20 per person. LCWS, 9505 Main Street. (707) 275-8030, www.cachecreekcatering.com

DATED EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Venetian Carnival Masquerade Party at Rosa D'Oro Vineyards, Kelseyville

February 17, 2012

Wear a mask and enter the contest at the annual Venetian Carnival Masquerade Party, held in the tasting room of Rosa D'Oro Vineyards in downtown Kelseyville. Guests will enjoy food, winetasting, and fun. Prizes awarded for masks, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Admission is \$15. Rosa D'Oro Vineyards, 3915 Main Street. (707) 279-0483, www.rosadorowine.com

Wine & Chocolate, Lakeport

February 18, 2012

An extensive offering of ultra-premium Lake County wines and for the first time this year, local beer brewers. All wines masterfully paired with luscious chocolates and other tasty food bites by Sommelier Stephanie Green, owner of Focused on Wine in Kelseyville. Green will lead workshops on wine sensory and pairing food with wines and a variety of other classes and demonstrations will be held, such as olive oil sensory, chocolate demonstrations, and biodynamic vineyards. Support Lake Family Resource Center programs and services while enjoying wine, beer, chocolate, food, music, wine- and olive oil-related workshops, wine store, and silent auction. Noon to 4:00 p.m. \$35 per person in advance; \$40 at the door. Mt. Konocti Growers, 2550 Big Valley Road. (707) 279-0563 or (888) 775-8336, www.lakefrc.org

MARCH

Kelseyville Olive Festival, Kelseyville

March 18, 2012

This celebration of locally grown olives will introduce guests to the olive oil and olive products produced from Lake County olives. Presented by Rosa D'Oro Vineyards and the Chasewater Wine Company & Olive Mill, which is located on a 10-acre olive orchard (formerly the St. Gregory Olive Farm) with 3,000 olive trees. This family-friendly event also features an olive pit spitting contest, as well as olive oil tasting workshops by a certified olive oil taster, food demonstrations, local wine and beer tasting, hula hoop contest, arts & crafts booths, and silent auction. Admission is free; fee for wine tasting. 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Chasewater Wine Company & Olive Mill, 5625 Gaddy Lane. (707) 279-0483, www.kelseyvilleolivefestival.com

APRIL

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

April 2012, by reservation only

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 and complimentary Lake County wine. \$60 adult/\$50 senior 55+. Eleven Roses Ranch. (707) 998-4471, www.elevenrosesranch.com

JUNE

Lake County Home Winemakers Festival, Lakeport

June 23, 2012

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. The venue will be shaded Library Park, on the shores of Clear Lake. Live music sets the mood with plentiful food from local purveyors available. Benefit for Lake County Symphony and music programs. Presented by Clear Lake Performing Arts. 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. \$15 per person in advance; \$20 day of event. Includes music, food, art, auction, raffles and a chance to vote on the winners. Library Park, Park Street. (707) 277-7076, www.clearlakeperformingarts.org

JULY

Lake County Wine Adventure Weekend, *Countywide*

July 28 – 29, 2012

Seventh-annual Wine Adventure offers guests a chance to explore many wines and wineries of California's Lake County. Eventgoers can sample distinct high-elevation award-winning wines from participating wineries and enjoy tasty hors d'oeuvres. During this two-day, passport-style event, many locations also feature barrel tastings, entertainment, winery tours, wine and food pairings, and other fun and sustainable wine activities. At the end of the Lake County Wine Adventure route, all participants are eligible to enter a raffle drawing. The purchase of a two-day Wine Adventure ticket includes a logo wine glass, tasting booklet, adventure map, and a weekend of fun in fabulous Lake County. Designated drivers are encouraged. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. Countywide.

(707) 355-2762, www.lakecountywineries.org

Lavender Festival at Ceago Vinegarden, *Nice*

July 2012 (Date TBD)

Each year, the fragrant fields of lavender on the shore of Clear Lake at Ceago Vinegarden is harvested and distilled. Join the festivities at Ceago which is home to the tasting room of Ceago Vinegarden, the organic and biodynamic wine label of Jim Fetzer. The lavender is used to produce essential oils, soaps, and more which are for sale in the tasting room. Small fee. 5115 E. Highway 20. (707) 274-1462, www.ceago.com

AUGUST

Blue Wing Blues Festival, *Upper Lake*

August 4-7, 2012

Sixth-annual blues festival in which acclaimed musicians take turns each night on the hotel veranda, performing for a full crowd in a garden setting. A delicious barbecue dinner is served and each night of the festival is sponsored by a different Lake County winery with tasting available. 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. 9550 Main Street. (707) 275-2244, www.tallmanhotel.com

Taste of Lakeport, *Lakeport*

August 17, 2012

Fifteenth-annual wine tasting event featuring food, wine tasting, live music, and dancing. Businesses in downtown Lakeport stay open late for the event, which 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. 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Main Street. (707) 263-8843,

www.lakeportmainstreet.com

SEPTEMBER

Lake County Wine Auction, *Nice*

September 2012 (Date TBD)

The Lake County Wine Alliance will hold its 13th-annual Wine Auction gala, a benefit for the arts, health, and community of Lake County with live and silent auctions, wine and gourmet foods from local purveyors, and music. The Wine Auction begins at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday; tickets are \$125 per person. Ceago Vinegarden, 5115 East Highway 20, in Nice. For tickets and information, contact (866) 279-WINE, www.winealliance.org

OCTOBER

Steele Wines Harvest Festival, *Kelseyville*

October 6 –7, 2012

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. Held the second weekend each October, various musicians will perform live both days. Visitors 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

NOVEMBER

People's Choice Wine Awards, Lake County

November 2012 (Date TBD)

Premier wine competition showcasing Lake County wines and wines made from Lake County fruit. This third-annual event is a fun and informative blind tasting where "the people" determine the winners. Event-goers have the opportunity to taste, judge, and vote for wines by casting ballots in a variety of categories. Food, music and award-winning wines. 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Langtry Estate and Vineyards, 2100 Butts Canyon Road, Middletown. Please designate a driver. (707) 355-2762, www.lakecountywineries.org.

TOURS AND TASTINGS

Brassfield Estate Winery, Clearlake Oaks

Tasting Room – Winter, Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and weekends by appointment; Summer (April – October) Daily 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tours - Year-round by reservation

Brassfield's diverse microclimates and soils make for a portfolio of intensely flavorful wines as unique as the land from which they come. And, like most wines of superior quality and character, Brassfield follows the true definition of estate bottled wine. Whether it's the nuanced flavor of the Estate wine tier's heritage varietals, or the proprietary Eruption and Serenity blends, 100 percent of the grapes that go into the wine are grown in their own vineyards and vinified and bottled at the winery.

Take a tour of the Estates 75,000 square feet of caves, grand tasting room, and luscious vineyards. By reservation only. 10915 High Valley Road, (707) 998-1895. www.brassfieldestate.com

Ceago Vinegarden, Nice

Tasting Room – Daily noon to 5:00 p.m.

Tours - By reservation

Situated along two miles of lakeshore, the agricultural resort-style winery owned and operated by Jim Fetzer of the prominent winemaking family, promotes a holistic farming environment for plant and animal life. A showcase of biodynamic winemaking and agriculture, the development surrounds a Hacienda-style compound of buildings with herb gardens, grapes, kiwis, olives, walnuts, figs, lavender, a variety of seasonal plantings and winegrapes — the primary production crop. Boat-up access and picnic area.

Tours are available by reservation only. Additional events: Lavender Festival, weddings, and corporate meetings. Call or visit the website for additional events. 5115 E. Highway 20, (707) 274-1462, www.ceago.com

Focused on Wine, Kelseyville

Tasting Room – Monday and Thursday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Operated by a knowledgeable sommelier, this wine bar and tasting room offers imported, domestic, and local wines by the glass, flight, or bottle. Guests can enjoy assorted cheeses from Cowgirl Creamery on a platter or packed to go. Food and wine pairing available on request. Private wine tasting is offered. Catering available. Also features fine cigars, select beers, wine gifts, wine-related home décor, gift baskets made to order, and wine sensory and other wine education classes. 3940 Main Street. (707) 279-2112, www.focusedonwine.com

Gregory Graham Winery & Vineyard, Lower Lake

Tasting Room – Friday-Sunday & most holidays 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tours - Year-round by reservation

Gregory Graham's winery, sitting at the base of the vineyard-covered hills, was constructed in 2006. The on-site facility with its proximity to the vines allows the winemaker to harvest grapes at the perfect time and engage in the winemaking immediately. As the grower and winemaker, Greg believes that grape selection, a well-timed harvest, and careful production are critical to making great wine.

Join winegrower Gregory Graham on a one-hour tour of his vineyards and gain first-hand knowledge of the area and what makes his particular vineyards so special. Then it's back to the tasting room for samples of current release wines while viewing the winery. Weather permitting. Advance reservations required. 13633 Point Lakeview Road. (707) 995-3500, www.ggwines.com

High Valley Vineyard, Clearlake Oaks

Tasting Room – Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday noon to 6:00 p.m.

Tours – Not available

Dedicated to producing memorable ultra-premium varietal wines from one of California's newest appellations, the High Valley AVA, High Valley Estate Vineyards owners Dustin and Bobbie Brassfield purchased their property and planted Cabernet Sauvignon and Sauvignon Blanc beginning in 1999. Picnic area available as well as special event space. 13151 E. Highway 20. (707) 799-5523, www.highvalleywine.com

Lake County Wine Studio, Upper Lake

Tasting Room – Thursday, Saturday and Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Friday 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Located in historic Upper Lake just across the street from the restored Tallman Hotel, the Lake County Wine Studio (LCWS) offers visitors a true taste of wine country. Hard-to-find artisan wines from over thirty-five select local producers are available for tasting and sale at the eco-friendly studios' straw-bale tasting bar. The first multi-winery tasting room in Lake County, the LCWS also boasts a gallery for local artists, hosts monthly art and wine receptions, food and wine pairings and fondue by appointment (24-hour advance reservation required). 9505 Main Street. (707) 275-8030

Langtry Estate & Vineyards, Middletown

Tasting Room – Daily 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tephra Ridge Tour – Tuesday-Saturday, year-round by reservation only, weather permitting

Langtry Estate & Vineyards is 35 square miles of paradise just 10 minutes east of Middletown in Lake County or 15 minutes north of Pope Valley in Napa.

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, Middletown. (707) 987-2385, www.langtryestate.com

Moore Family Winery, Kelseyville

Tasting Room – Saturday & Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Memorial through Labor Day Friday, Saturday, & Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

Tours: Informal tours

Nestled in the foothills of Cobb Mountain, the naturally farmed vineyard yields small clusters of intensely flavored fruit. Come visit the tasting room, sample the wines, and take in the beautiful views. Enjoy a picnic on the grass or at one of the tables and chairs; order a boxed lunch, salad, cheese platter, or sandwich (48 hour advance reservation). Other events include: Concerts in the Vineyard, weddings, annual Crab Boil, Irish Feast, Oysters & Sauvignon Blanc, Movies under the Stars, and bocce ball. 11990 Bottle Rock Road. Visit the website or call for dates and times. www.moorefamilywinery.com, (707) 279-9279

Noggle Vineyards & Winery, Clearlake Oaks

Tasting Room – Saturday & Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and by appointment

Tours: Not available

A family-owned boutique winery located in the secluded Old Long Valley appellation, Noggle Vineyards and Winery produces Cabernet Sauvignon from a six-acre vineyard that sits on a 1,500-foot bench below Round Mountain and above the North Fork of Cache Creek. A combination of mineral-rich volcanic soil and hot summer temperatures with breezy, cool nights promotes a slow, even ripening of the grapes. Picnic area available. 700 Long Valley Road. (707) 998-0319, www.nogglevineyardsandwinery.com

Ployez Winery, Lower Lake

Tasting Room – Daily 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tours – Not available

When Gerald Ployez left France for the United States, he brought his oenology education and a taste of his homeland, Champagne, with him to make Lake County's first sparkling wine. Ployez is home to music events held throughout the year. Along with the tasting room, facilities are available for weddings, banquets, and conventions. 11171 Highway 29. (707) 994-2106, www.ployezwines.com

Robledo Family Winery, Lakeport

Tasting Room – Monday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Tours – Not available

In 1968 Reynaldo Robledo, Sr. learned how to prune a vine. He spent the following three decades working in several vineyards learning more and more about this unique type of farming. His experience grew until he was eventually managing vineyards with hundreds of acres and many men. During these years the family purchased fourteen vineyards, totaling approximately 300 acres, in Napa, Sonoma, and Lake County. Although they still sell most of the fruit to other wineries, they now produce their own estate wines. After owning one of the more popular tasting room's in Sonoma, CA for several years, the family decided to open a tasting room in Lake County to showcase the wines produced here. 2040 Soda Bay Road. (707) 263-0100, www.robledofamilywinery.com

Rosa D'Oro Vineyards, Kelseyville

Tasting Room – Wednesday-Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Tours – Not available

Rosa d'Oro is rooted in family and old-world Italian traditions. Using only organic farming techniques, the winery is responsible for the entire process — from planting to winemaking, bottling to selling. Specializing in Italian varieties like Primitivo, Barbera, Dolcetto, and Aglianico, the Buttitta family opened the doors to their very own tasting room in the heart of downtown Kelseyville, with an atmosphere that makes guests feel right at home. 3915 Main Street. (707) 279-0483, www.rosadorowine.com

Shannon Ridge Vineyards & Winery, Clearlake Oaks

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Tasting Room – Daily 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tours – Not available

After meeting at a Napa Valley winery where they both worked, Clay and Margarita Shannon would eventually use their common vision to take the reins with their own winery. Shannon Ridge uses fruit from the High Valley AVA in Clearlake Oaks, where the Shannons have pioneered more than 300 acres of mountain vineyards. Sited in blankets of brick-red earth — at altitudes up to 2,400 feet — the vineyards are nestled between the waters of Clear Lake to the south and snow-capped mountains to the north. The lean and rocky volcanic soil has kept its promise to grow vines that produce small berries with concentrated flavors, which compose the luscious, fruit-driven wines that lift Shannon Ridge's reputation to the same elevations as the grapes that distinguish it. Voted one of the Top 10 hottest brands by Wine Business Monthly in December 2006, Shannon Ridge has brought home numerous awards from prestigious competitions. Positioned between the shoreline of Clear Lake and Highway 20, the tasting room sits inside a 100-plus-year-old schoolhouse surrounded by beautifully landscaped grounds with 18 picnic tables, making it a perfect spot for a picnic lunch. 12599 E. Highway 20. (707) 998-9656, www.shannonridge.com

Shed Horn Cellars, Middletown

Tasting Room – Thursday 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Friday-Saturday 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and by appointment

Tours – Not available

Shed Horn Cellars is the vision of long-time Lake County resident and award-winning winemaker Michael Wood. For many years Michael produced wines for prestigious Lake County wineries. After years of training, gaining knowledge, and experience, he decided to pursue his own winemaking passion and his vision for Shed Horn became a reality. Being an avid outdoorsman, Michael found a name for his winery easily with the idea of the powerful elk. With his enthusiasm for the business and the assistance of his family, Shed Horn Cellar's started producing wines from the mountainous, wild, volcanic soils of the areas most esteemed vineyards. 21108 Calistoga Street. (707) 987-8445, www.shedhorncellars.com

Six Sigma Ranch and Winery, Lower Lake

Tasting Room – Daily 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Private Barrel Tasting by 48-hour advance reservation only

Tours - Year-round by reservation

The historic Stage Coach Stop Tasting Room is located in the center of the ranch, two miles from the front gate on Spruce Grove Road. Tasting of three wines is complimentary. Wines may be purchased by the bottle or by the glass. Guests are invited to enjoy the oak shaded picnic area that surrounds the tasting room, the perfect spot for a relaxing lunch! Other events include: Pruning and Pastries, Release Party, Harvest Education, and Cowboy Cook-off. Visit the website or call for dates and times www.sixsigmaranch.com or (707) 994-4068.

Vines, Mines & Wines Tour: Hop into the Six Sigma Ranch Pinzgauer for the rugged accent to the high altitude Diamond Mine Vineyard. Following the vineyard tour, return to the Stage Coach House for a tasting of current Six Sigma releases. Weather permitting. \$125 for up to 8 people. 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 13372 Spruce Grove Road.

Steele Wines, Inc., Kelseyville

Tasting Room – Monday-Friday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tours – By appointment

Jed Steele, founding winemaker of Kendall-Jackson, established Steele and Shooting Star Wines in 1991, co-leasing a small winery until the summer of 1996 when he purchased and opened the old Konocti Winery between Lakeport and Kelseyville. In 2002, Jed and his son Quincy Steele, began a small project which became the new label named Writer's Block, which has blossomed into an acclaimed line of wines. Steele Wines also produces small quantities of single-vineyard Chardonnays, five single-vineyard Pinot Noirs, three single-vineyard Zinfandels, Pinot Gris, Viognier, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, and Late Harvest Chardonnay. All three labels have won numerous awards. Additional events: Harvest Festival and farmer's market. 4350 Thomas Drive. (707) 279-9475, www.steelewines.com

Terrill Cellars Winery, Lower Lake

Tasting Room – Daily 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tours – Not available

It was after a very vivid dream that Brad Terrill created Tuscan Village. The miniature Italian-style village features an art and gift shop and an amphitheater featuring live music on Fridays, a welcoming orchard, and a charming little wedding chapel. The Terrill Cellars winery was built with an original wall from the Lower Lake Livery Stable from the 1860s. Winetasting is offered both indoors and out. Picnic area also available. Additional events: Renaissance Festival, concerts on Fridays, and Village Marketplace. Also available for weddings & receptions. 16175 Main Street. (707) 252-8444, www.terrillcellars.com

Vigilance, Lower Lake

Tasting Room – Mandy-Friday noon to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tours – By appointment

Vigilance Vineyards & Winery is set amongst the historic Anderson Marsh sanctuary where preservation of the land and wildlife are equally matched to the beliefs of Clay & Margarita Shannon, owners of this breathtaking slice of heaven. Generated from their art of farming using sustainable practices and their spirit of being careful to preserve land for future generations the Vigilance blend became a truly harmonious expression of the earth and the Shannon's commitment to it. One of two wineries connected by the Red Hills Terroir Trail. Picnic facilities on site. 13888 Point Lakeview Road. (707) 994-9656, www.vigilancewinery.com

Villa La Brenta/Blue Oak Canyon Vineyard, Clearlake

Tasting Room – Daily 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tours - Informal

Set in its own 65 acre vineyard and inspired by a design of Andrea Palladio, the 16th century Venetian architect, for Count Ottaviano Thiene. Blue Oak Canyon Vineyard produces two different estate grown grape varieties - Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot. Volcanic, rocky, hilly soil makes for stressed vines which produce the best fruit, a superb terroir for red wine production. Animal corridors bisect the property both in width and length, providing for interesting nature walks, or picnic within the vineyard while enjoying your favorite Villa La Brenta wine. Event space available for weddings, conference, corporate retreats, and special events. 1780 Highway 53. (707) 994-4000, www.villalabrenta.com

Wildhurst Vineyards, Kelseyville

Tasting Room – Daily 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tours – Not available

Wildhurst Vineyards began in 1966 when fifth-generation pear grower Myron Holdenried planted a former pear orchard with 30 acres of Zinfandel grapes. In the years since, Wildhurst's handcrafted wines have consistently won top awards and high ratings. Winemaker Mark Burch's commitment to produce hand-crafted fruit-focused wines that showcase the quality of the Lake County winegrape growing region is evident in his signature wine – Sauvignon Blanc – and in the winery's other award-winning varietals including Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Chardonnay, and Zinfandel. A friendly tasting room is located in the restored Odd Fellows Hall in downtown Kelseyville. 3855 Main Street. (707) 279-4302, www.wildhurst.com

Tallman Hotel Wine Touring Package, Countywide

Year-round by reservation

Guests of the hotel can enjoy this five-hour limousine tour with a personable and knowledgeable driver. Choose from a guaranteed private tour or a shared tour with others, up to eight guests total. Book the tour and a room by contacting the hotel. Gratuity to driver not included. Add picnic lunch box for \$20 per person. 9550 Main Street. (866) 708-5253, (707) 275-2244, or www.tallmanhotel.com

Water Tours, Clear Lake

Year-round by reservation

Guests discover the beauty of Clear Lake from the water. Tours include deluxe seating for eight in a 21-foot pontoon boat with canopy and a knowledgeable guide. Tours are customized to guest specification: wildlife and nature, wine tasting, fishing, or sightseeing. Indian Beach Resort, 9945 E. Highway 20, Clearlake Oaks. (707) 998-3760, www.theindianbeachresort.com

Other wineries with tastings/tours by reservation only:

Barclay & Browning Wines, Big Valley Wine, Bullion Creek Vineyards, Chacewater Winery & Olive Mill, Eden Crest Vineyards, Fortress Vineyards, Hawk & Horse Vineyards, McDermaid Family Vineyards, Monte Lago Vineyards & Winery, Mt. Konocti Growers, Obsidian Ridge, Red Lava Vineyards, Snows Lake Vineyard, and Sol Rouge.

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 AVAs exist—Clear Lake, Benmore Valley, Guenoc, Red Hills, and High Valley.