

Missouri Wine & Grape Board Newsletter

October 2009



Octoberfest Fun

October is a popular time to visit Missouri's many wineries. Pack a picnic and enjoy your October outing pairing wine with food...

Chardonal with Gouda cheese,
Norton with barbeque,
Chamburcin with pizza, Catawba
with jalapeno jack cheese...for
more food pairing ideas check out
the wine and food pairing guide
under Grape Tastes at
www.Missouriwine.org

You could also pick up your picnic
fare at the winery. Check with
the wineries for their picnic
offerings or their on-site
restaurant hours. For a list of
winery offerings, amenities and
happenings visit
www.Missouriwine.org

Also check out the trip planner
at www.NortonSays.com for some
fun suggestions.

As always, remember
to celebrate October
responsibly.



Harvest 2009 is Mighty Fine

Harvest 2009 in Missouri is winding down and reports from vineyards around the state are positive.

Overall, considering all the rain and poor weather early in the season, the grape crop has been remarkably clean, reports Institute for Continental Climate Viticulture and Enology (ICCVE) Extension Associate Viticulturist Andy Allen. Rain and cool weather as grapes develop can be an invitation to problems in the vineyard such as insect infestation and rot. The break in the rainy weather after veraison (the period when grapes change color as they ripen...grape clusters start out green, and as they ripen, the red varieties start turning red, and the white varieties start turning golden) with mostly warm and sunny conditions has helped develop good fruit flavors and quality.

Around Missouri:

Vintners in the Ste. Genevieve area report their grapes are in great shape with no fungal disease and only minimal bird damage. As in years past, their Norton grapes will be ready for picking in mid-October.

In the St. James region harvest has just about wrapped up, even the Norton is in. The grape flavors are reported as excellent this year, especially the whites, which are exceptional.

From Hermann, harvest started a couple of weeks late due to a late bloom but with the recent great weather they are back to a normal harvest time frame. Incredible quality from white varieties like Traminette, Vignoles, and Vidal is reported, as well as record quantity.

From north central Missouri, the harvest was plentiful and of good quality. The cooler weather throughout the season brought out more of the varietal characteristics...the juice is looking, tasting and smelling great thus far.

James Winery wines - Velvet Red, Velvet White, Pink Catawba, Country Red and Country White - will go to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure St. Louis affiliate. www.stjameswinery.com

→ Site-See

Check out these Missouri wine blogs for all the latest on what's happening in the world of MO wine:

[Missouri Wine Girl](#)

[A Day in the Life of a Missouri Winery](#)

[Cave Vineyard](#)

[Jowler Creek Vineyard & Winery](#)

[OOVVDA Winery](#)

[PeacefulKT's Pursuits](#)

[The Bend Blog](#)

[Amigoni Vineyards](#)

[Rolling Meadow Vineyards](#)

[Little Hills Winery](#)

→ More Sports & Wine News

Mount Pleasant winery's Brut Imperial was chosen to be St. Louis Cardinals' celebratory champagne as they secured a spot in the playoffs September 26 against the Colorado Rockies.

"We had the honor of providing the celebratory champagne for the Cardinals' World Series win in 2006," said Chuck Dressel, President of Mount Pleasant. "We are elated to be chosen again to help the Cardinals celebrate their success."

Go Cardinals!

→ Get Smart about Grapes & Wine

Dreaming about opening your own winery? Interested in planting a vineyard? Been there, done that and still looking for more info? Consider attending the 25th Annual Midwest Grape & Wine Conference, February 6-8, 2010.

The 25th Anniversary conference is themed "Toast to Our History, Sustaining Our Future" and will feature three full days of informative viticulture, enology and marketing sessions, a deluxe trade show and a grand finale 25th Anniversary Celebration banquet.

Known as one of the premiere conferences in the Midwest, industry newbies are welcome to rub elbows with established Missouri vintners and grape growers. The 2010 conference offers beginners and the experienced an opportunity to learn and keep current with industry practices, build relationships with industry colleagues, and network with old and new friends.

This year the conference returns to the beautiful Tan-Tar-A Resort at the Lake of the Ozarks. For more information visit www.midwestgrapeandwineconference.com



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www.missouriwine.org
www.nortonsays.com

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