

July 8, 2009

Virginia Wine Month Gets Bigger and Better this October

-Start making plans now to worship the grape at 143 wineries and celebrations-

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RICHMOND, Va. – Virginia is calling all wine lovers to make plans now for Virginia Wine Month in October.

Virginia devotes the entire month to celebrating wine at more than 140 wineries and hundreds of special events, festivals and tastings. This year, Virginia Wine Month promises to be bigger and better than ever as the state celebrates the 40th anniversary of *Virginia is for Lovers*.

Virginia Wine Month has become a celebrated tradition, drawing visitors who share a love of wine and a passion for travel. The celebration is the heart of the fall travel season, as Virginia's 15 million acres of foliage show off brilliant colors. Virginia Wine Month is a great reason to plan a relaxing getaway to enjoy Virginia's scenic beauty and some of the best wine on the East Coast. The vineyards are lush and harvest is still in process, making it a unique opportunity to see Virginia wineries at an optimum time.

Ready to make plans to taste the best of Virginia Wine Month? Use the following tips to plan the ultimate Virginia wine getaway:

1. **Look for festivals** – major wine festivals take place during October in every region of the state. Classics such as the *Norton Wine and Bluegrass Festival*, *Harvest Festival at Kluge Vineyards*, the *Virginia Wine Festival* at Town Point, and Powhatan's *Festival of the Grape* are just a few to consider. Visit www.Virginia.org/wine to see more celebrations and events.
2. **Hop on a wine trail** – Virginia's numerous wine trails traverse through quaint small towns, picturesque countryside and stunning natural beauty. Each wine trail has a unique theme, from history to music to regional interests, complete with wineries, local restaurants and great places to stay overnight.
3. **Book a travel package** – historic inns, charming B&Bs and elegant resorts and hotels often feature special packages for Virginia Wine Month. Visit www.Virginia.org to find a travel package ideal for a wine getaway.
4. **Save with discounts** – save up to 40 percent on fall travel with the Virginia's 40 Off Travel Deals program. More than 200 destinations across the state are offering special savings and deals in honor of the 40th anniversary of *Virginia is for Lovers*.
5. **Get collectors items** – select wineries across the state are offering special label *Virginia is for Lovers* 40th anniversary wine. Visit www.Virginia.org/wine for the complete list of participating wineries and plan to visit the tasting rooms to purchase collectable bottles, while supplies last.



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Visit www.Virginia.org/wine to plan a visit for Virginia Wine Month. Or call 1-800-VISITVA to request a free, *Virginia is for Lovers – Live Passionately* travel guide.

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