

Galena Wine Lovers' Weekend Expands and Offers Two Grand Tastings

Written by Tim Althaus

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GALENA, Ill. – Coming off of an extremely successful 2010, with the Grand Tasting selling out three weeks prior to the event date, the Galena Wine Lovers' Weekend committee announces that they've added a second Grand Tasting to the wine-focused weekend, allowing even more opportunity and flexibility to attend.

"We are thrilled to offer an additional Grand Tasting on Saturday afternoon as well as Friday evening," said event sponsor Tim Althaus, owner, Family Beer & Liquor. "Over the past six years, this event has continued to grow to be one of the largest indoor wine tasting events in the state. Offering two Grand Tastings allows for even more people to enjoy this great opportunity."

At the heart of Galena Wine Lovers' Weekend, the Grand Tasting and Wine Auction offers epicureans of all levels more than 300 varieties of hand-picked wines and spirits from which to sample. The Grand Tasting will be held at two different times this year: Friday, March 25 from 6-8 p.m. (registration begins at 5:30 p.m.) and on Saturday, March 26 from 4-6 p.m. (registration begins at 3:30 p.m.). Both events are hosted at the Galena Convention Center, 900 Galena Square Drive, Galena, Illinois.

Cost is \$30 in advance (purchase online: www.wineloversweekend.com) or \$35 at the door (subject to availability). Admission also provides you with a keepsake wine glass and an opportunity to win a wine-themed trip to San Francisco. Additional trip chances may be purchased for \$15 each. Auction items include vintage wines, artwork, large format wine bottles and related items of interest.

Now in its sixth year running, Galena Wine Lovers' Weekend is a community-wide celebration of good wine, good food and good friends. Wine lovers of all sorts are invited to enjoy three event-filled days of fine wine, culinary delight, celebrity chefs, wine makers, pampering packages and all of the stops Galena can possibly pull out.

Galena Wine Lovers' Weekend is a spirited way to warm the winter and add romance, whether it is for vino, gourmet cuisine or the history and charm all on its own. Wine-inspired dinners, spirit tastings, spa experiences, history tours, cooking demonstrations and shopping welcome and enchant visitors.

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Lodging specials and package deals fuel the passion. From dining packages to pampering in luxurious accommodations and the warmest of hospitality, Galena's finest provide a variety of options to cater to every taste and budget.

Visit www.wineloversweekend.com for a detailed listing of extended-weekend activities, links to lodging, and an opportunity to purchase tickets online. Additional area offerings may be found with the Galena/Jo Daviess County Convention and Visitors Bureau at www.galena.org

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