



WINE YAKIMA VALLEY

AN ASSOCIATION OF GROWERS AND WINERIES

Yakima Valley Wine Country Touring Tips from the Valley

The next time you tour Yakima Valley wineries and vineyards to find out “How Does Washington Taste?” follow these touring tips that will help you seem like a pro during your visit. Remember that Yakima Valley world-renowned winemakers and growers are eager to share their knowledge and passion with consumers and their colleagues.

Location

Located in south central Washington, the Yakima Valley is a scenic and leisurely two to three hour drive from Seattle, Spokane or Portland. Yakima Valley Wine Country is situated in the central region of Washington State, beginning in Yakima and running through the Benton City, Red Mountain region. The Yakima Valley wine country is situated along Interstate 82 in the central part of Washington State. The foothills of the Cascade Mountains form the western boundary of the appellation, with the area extending east to the Kiona Hills near Richland.

Plan Your Itinerary

Visit between 3 to 4 tasting rooms per day. Get the true tasting experience by lingering at each winery. A true tasting will allow you time to let your sensations pay attention to the flavors of each wine. Plan your itinerary so that at lunchtime you end up at a winery that has a picnic area.

Please Drink Responsibly

Discover the flavors of Yakima Valley by sampling and drinking in moderation. Alcohol consumption is limited to people 21 years or older. Don't hesitate to spit; tasting rooms usually provide a container for this purpose.

Wine tasting etiquette

You and other wine tasters want to be able to evaluate a wine's aroma without competition: avoid wearing strong scent or smoking immediately before visiting a tasting room. Be assured that it is “O.K.” to pour out the remainder of a sample of wine which you don't finish. Tasting rooms usually provide a container for this purpose.

Explore Beyond Your Favorite Wines

Every winemaker has a unique style and manner of finishing their wines, so a variety of wine (merlot, chardonnay, etc.) will taste differently at each winery. This is a great chance to taste wines that pique your curiosity.

Ask Questions

Yakima Valley winemakers and growers are a generous bunch—with their time, knowledge and passion for producing world-class wines.

Whether you are a novice or expert, you will find friendly, knowledgeable hosts in the Valley's tasting rooms who want to pass on their passion for the Yakima Valley. In fact, many times in the Yakima Valley, the person behind the tasting room counter is the owner and or winemaker.

Tasting and Buying Wine at the Winery

Some tasting rooms may ask that you pay a fee to taste the wine. Some wineries apply this fee to a purchase. Others might include the glass. Occasionally wineries will run special sales. If the winery has a newsletter or mailing list be sure to sign up. This way you will find out about special sales & events at the winery. If you had a great experience and enjoyed the wine, it's very appropriate to make a purchase.