



Experience Wine

Helping People Explore the World of Wine

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What People are Saying about classes from Experience Wine:

"Great food and great presentation. Thank you so much we can't wait for the next class."
- Mellissa Smith.

"In just 2 hours I have gained a fabulous wealth of knowledge about wine that I know will serve me in the future."
-- Jennifer Young

"Very informative, loved the selection of wine and the food went really well with the wine."
-- Velma Jones

Partner Links & Information

Wine Store Partners

Each partner store offers Experience Wine students a discount off their next purchase after completing one of our courses

Celebrations Wine & Spirits
Located at 2850 S. Academy Blvd; 500 cases of hand selected wines

Colorado Wine & Liquor
Located at 5055 N. Academy Blvd just a few doors down from Big 5; nice selection including some older vintages

Book Review

I'm just finishing up the last few pages of a wonderful book entitled: "Judgment of Paris: California vs. France and the Historic 1976 Paris Tasting that Revolutionized Wine". This is a terrific book, and definitely the best book I've read about the emergence of the California wine industry. I'm looking forward to reviewing this material in our October Specialty Class, "The Wines of Napa Valley". In the meantime, however, we've got a class on Italian wines in August and a new class we're building in September which will focus on an overview of French wines. There's a lot going on at Experience Wine, and we're just about to release information on two new ways to experience the world of wine in El Paso County, so stay tuned for some important new announcements! See you in class...



Mark Hejtmanek
Owner, Experience Wine
Certified Executive Wine Sommelier

Public Classes for August Through October 2007

Introductory Wine Course: "A Friendly Introduction to Wine"

This course is perfect for those brand new to wine, or for someone who enjoys wine already and wants to learn more. Course includes appetizers, 4 wines to taste, course handouts, textbook, and more!
Course Length - approximately 2 hours. Price: \$40 per person, \$75 per couple:

August 12th 5:30 to 7:30PM at Mimi's Café on N. Academy

September 9th 5:30 to 7:30PM at Mimi's Café on N. Academy

October 14th 5:30 to 7:30PM at Mimi's Café on N. Academy

Specialty Course: "Italian Wines". This class explores the main wine regions of Italy including Veneto, Piedmont, Tuscany, Trentino, and Southern Italy. Course includes appetizers, 6 wines ordered especially for this event, course handouts, and discount



Fairfax Liquors

Located at 5535 Powers Center Pt. near the intersection of research and Powers.

Liquor Depot

Located at 5984 Stetson Hills Blvd next to King Soopers

MK Wine & Liquor

Located at 5955 Constitution Ave, near Powers/Constitution; US Veteran Owned & Operated

Payless Liquors

Located at 3472 Research Parkway; large and growing selection of domestic and imported wines

Queen Liquors

Located at 1744 W. Uintah near intersection of Uintah and 19th St.

Steins & Vines

Located in King Soopers shopping center at corner of Fillmore and Centennial

The Wine Seller

Located at Highway 105 and Roberts Drive in Monument; Owner is an expert in French and German wines

The Wine Store

Located downtown at 523 S. Cascade; has a wonderful selection of unique small production wines

Vintages Wine & Spirits

Located downtown at 9 S. Tejon; Voted "Best Wine Shop" by Gazette for 2006!

Woodmen Wine & Liquor

Located at 3502 Hartsel Drive, next to King Sooper near the intersection of Lexington and Woodmen.

Restaurant Partners

Current locations for our public classes

Mimi's Cafe

Our current location for classes is on North Academy Blvd – check out their website and be sure to click on "Who's Mimi?"

The Warehouse Restaurant

New location for classes beginning in March 2007 with a separate wine room for our events

Bambinos Restaurant & Catering

Catering for private wine events. Located at 2849 East Platte Ave. (corner of Circle and Platte)

offers from local vendors. Date: **August 23rd** 5:30 to 8:00PM. Price: \$45 per person. Location: The Warehouse Restaurant.



Specialty Course: "Intro to France". France is one of the oldest and most revered winemaking regions in the world. But it's also one of the most complicated too. Come join us for your first look at this fascinating wine region that makes some of the best wines in the world. Course includes appetizers, 6 wines ordered especially for this event, course handouts, and discount offers from local vendors. Date: **September 27th** 5:30 to 8:00PM. Price: \$45 per person. Location: The Warehouse Restaurant.

Specialty Course: "Wines of Napa Valley". We'll taste wines from the Napa Valley where some of the best wines in the world are made; Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon has developed an especially strong global reputation. Course includes appetizers, course handouts, book, and discount offers from local vendors. Date: **October 25th** 5:30 to 8:00PM. Price: \$45 per person. Location: The Warehouse Restaurant.

Become a Wine Sommelier!



The **International Wine Guild** is a professional wine school based in Denver. On October 20th and 21st, they'll be bringing their instructors and executive chef to Colorado Springs to conduct a **Wine Certification Seminar** at Plate World Cuisine. Experience Wine is co-sponsoring the event and we're thrilled to be working with the

owner, Claude Robbins MWA MWE, and his fantastic team. This class is for both professionals AND enthusiasts – check out the link (above) for a complete description of the program. The Guild doesn't charge your credit card until 7 days prior to the event, so sign up early to ensure your spot!

What does it mean to see the word "Reserve" on the label?

In most countries of the world, the word "Reserve" has no legal meaning that can be applied on a consistent basis; it is simply a marketing term used to imply that some special attention has been paid to the wine and therefore the quality (and hence the price) is higher. However, there are a few countries in the world where the word "Reserva" or "Reserve" really does have a legal connotation: Spain, Portugal, Argentina and Chile. In Spain, which is the second oldest winemaking region in Europe after Italy, the word "Reserva" means the wine must go through at least 3 to 4 years of ageing, with at least 1 year in oak. "Gran Reserva" means the wine must have 4 to 5 years of ageing with 2 years in oak. The other countries mentioned above follow a similar, though not identical, pattern to discern their wines from the younger versions.

Other Links

www.localwineevents.com

Our courses are also listed here

Contact Us

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In Spain, that younger version is labeled as "Crianza". Crianza wines are aged 1 to 2 years, with at least 6 months in oak. If you want to try a fun experiment, buy all three versions of the same wine by the same producer so you can compare the wines: Crianza, Reserva, and Gran Reserva. Cheers!

Wine Recommendation: 2001 Campo Viejo "Reserva", Rioja



I have another Spanish wine to recommend this month, a very nice Rioja by Campo Viejo. Remember, Rioja is a region in Spain known for its full-bodied red wines based on the Tempranillo grape. The word Reserva on the label means it went through 3 to 4 years of ageing with at least one year in oak. The wine is indeed full-bodied with aromas of blackberry, black cherry, spice, and black pepper. This is a wonderful wine with grilled meats, and it retails for a very reasonable \$18.