



# Experience Wine

Helping People Explore the World of Wine

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## What People are Saying about "A Friendly Introduction to Wine"

*"We have attended wine tastings previously, and this was the best by far! The course content covered and the reference material provided ensures you take the most knowledge away from the experience."*

-- Cathy Bielak

*"This was very educational, easy, and fun; a great way to learn about wine and an excellent value."*

-- Jeanne Moore

## Partner Links

[bethandbob@thewinestorecs.com](mailto:bethandbob@thewinestorecs.com)

**The Wine Store, located at 523 S. Cascade offers our Experience Wine students a 10% discount off their next purchase after they complete one of our courses**

[www.mimiscafe.com](http://www.mimiscafe.com)

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

[www.localwineevents.com](http://www.localwineevents.com)

**Our courses are also listed here**

[www.utopixe.com](http://www.utopixe.com)

**Melinda Sorber did a fantastic job with our website. Thanks Melinda!**

## Latest News from Experience Wine.

Momentum continues to build here at Experience Wine. For this month, I'm very excited about a new class we'll be doing on March 19<sup>th</sup> called "Sonoma County Focus". Join us for a close look at the area where I first learned about wine. We're also in the process of planning some upcoming private events and adding wine accessories for purchase either at events or on our website.



And Lastly, we're on the lookout for a location to do our wine courses in the downtown or southern part of Colorado Springs. If you have a suggestion on a restaurant you think would work well, please shoot us an e-mail – we'd like to hear from you. A venue with a separate room that can hold 20 to 30

students would be ideal. We're looking forward to continuing to improve the breadth and quality of our offerings from Experience Wine, and truly appreciate the wonderful feedback and support.

Mark Hejtmanek

Owner, Experience Wine

Certified Wine Sommelier

## Classes Set for March & April 2006

**Specialty Course: "Sonoma County Focus"**. Everyone knows Napa County; well Sonoma County is the "other" wine county in Northern California. Join me for a taste of home as we sample 6 wines from some of my favorite wineries in Sonoma County. We'll do a "virtual tour" through the Russian River, Alexander Valley, Dry Creek Valley, and Sonoma Valley. Course includes appetizers, course handouts, book, and more! Date: **March 19th**. Price: \$45 per person (\$80 per couple). Location: Mimi's Café on N. Academy.

### **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. Date: **April 9th**. Price: \$35 per person (\$60 per couple)

Location: Mimi's Café on N. Academy.



## Contact Us

www.experiencewine.net  
mark@experiencewine.net

Experience Wine, LLC  
(719) 282-8688

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*To: [uncorked-request@experiencewine.net](mailto:uncorked-request@experiencewine.net)*

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**Specialty Course: "Wines from Napa Valley"**. The second in our series of courses on Northern California wines, we'll taste wines from up and down 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 more! Date: **April 30th**. Price: \$45 per person (\$80 per couple). Location: Mimi's Café on N. Academy.

## Wine Geography: Sonoma County, CA

Drive north from San Francisco on Highway 101 over the Golden Gate bridge, and about 20 minutes later you'll have left the hustle and bustle of the Bay Area behind. The rolling hill country of Sonoma County, the western neighbor of the more famous Napa County, is home to open pastureland for dairy cows, oak trees,



vineyards, and a wide variety of other produce including the famous Gravenstein apple. Until 1960, there weren't many vineyards in this area. But over the past 45 years, this traditionally agricultural community, with its almost perfect weather for grape growing, the variety of

micro-climates, and the incredibly rich soil have allowed Sonoma County to enter the list of regions where remarkable wine is created. Some of the registered sub-regions within the county are becoming known to be associated with particular grape varieties that flourish in their unique micro-climates: Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, Dry Creek Valley Zinfandel, and Russian River Chardonnay & Pinot Noir to name a few. Join us on the 19<sup>th</sup> to try wine and learn more about this important wine region in Northern California.

## New Partner – Payless Liquors in Briargate

We're very excited to announce that we have added another partner to our Experience Wine community: Payless Liquors in Briargate. Bob and Lora Hahn recently purchased their store in the Albertsons shopping center at Research and Union and they have a large (and growing) supply of everyday and varietal wines from all over the world. Like our friends Bob & Beth at The Wine Store downtown, Payless Liquors will also offer our Experience Wine students a 10% discount off their next wine purchase when they present their Certificate of Course Completion. Stop by and say "Hello", and tell them you heard about their store from Experience Wine.

## Wine Recommendation: Rancho Zabaco Zinfandel

While doing research for this coming weekend's class, we happened upon a fabulous Zinfandel from Sonoma County's Dry Creek Valley. Rancho Zabaco's 2002 Reserve Zinfandel is a great example of the wonderful Zinfandels being grown in this sub-region of Sonoma County. It is smooth, nicely balanced, with intense cherry and blackberry flavors and retails for about \$18. This wine would make an excellent match for a full-flavored grilled meat dish or you could even give it a try with Mexican food for a fun, cross-cultural food pairing experiment. Enjoy!