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For Immediate Release
Contact: Autumn Woods, Marketing Coordinator
info@columbiagorgewine.com
1-866-413-9463

Wineries of Columbia Gorge Celebrate Success in 2009
Tasting rooms open throughout winter months for wine touring!

Hood River, Oregon – Nationally recognized wines, Platinum, Gold and Silver medals, Washington Winery of the year – these are just a few of the many accolades the wineries of the Columbia Gorge winegrowing region have enjoyed in the past year. Like the vineyards growing along the 40 mile stretch of the Columbia River in Oregon and Washington, the thirty or so wineries of the Gorge have been maturing, and are beginning to see the rewards of their passion and patience.

“Our wineries have reported record-setting visitation and sales numbers over the past year,” states Autumn Woods, Marketing Coordinator for the Columbia Gorge Winegrowers Association. “With a generous matching grant from Travel Oregon, we created the new Passport Weekend event in March 2009 which generated a lot of interest in our winegrowing region. It helped kick off the 2009 season and made an uncertain economic climate much easier for our members to weather. Many of the wineries reported sales double those of March 2008 and surveys completed by guests indicated a minimum of 116 lodging nights generated by the program.” The successful weekend will be an annual event and will occur April 9-11, 2010.

Wine lovers do not have to wait for an event weekend, however, to discover the wineries of the Gorge. Many of the area’s tasting rooms are open daily throughout the winter months and more have weekend hours through December. “I think December is a great month to discover Gorge wines,” says Woods, “Guests can have a relaxing, cozy and attentive tasting experience, with many of the winery owners and winemakers serving in the tasting rooms. With the wide variety of grapes growing in the area, we really do offer “A World of Wine” for our visitors to discover.”

A list of open tasting rooms follows (please visit website to confirm hours):

Open Daily (closed Christmas Day):

Cascade Cliffs, 8866 Hwy 14, Wishram, WA, 509-767-1100 cascadec cliffs.com – Daily 11am-6pm

Cathedral Ridge Winery, 4200 Post Canyon Drive, Hood River, 800-516-8710 cathedralridgewinery.com
– Daily 11am–5pm

Maryhill Winery, 9774 Highway 14, Goldendale, WA, 877-627-9445 maryhillwinery.com - Daily 10am-6pm, closing at 4pm on 12/14 & 12/31; closed Christmas & New Year’s Day.

Naked Winery, Corner of 2nd & Cascade, Downtown Hood River, 800-666-9303 nakedwinery.com – Daily 12pm-7pm,
Live music until 11 pm on Fridays, Saturdays & Mondays

Pheasant Valley, 3890 Acree Drive Hood River, 541-387-3040 pheasantvalleywinery.com - Daily 11am-5pm
Phelps Creek Vineyards, 1850 Country Club Road, Hood River, 541-386-2607 phelpscreekvineyards.com – Daily 11am – 5pm
The Pines 1852 Tasting Room, 202 State Street, Hood River 541-993-8301 thepinesvineyard.com – Wed-Sunday 12pm – 6pm, Thurs-Sat 12pm - 9pm, closed January 1st – 6th
Wheatridge in the Nook, 11102 Phillipi Canyon, Arlington, OR 541-454-2585 wheatridgeinthenook.com - Daily 11am – 6pm

Open Weekends:

COR Cellars, 151 Old Highway 8, Lyle, WA 509-365-3744 corcellars.com – Sat-Sun 11am - dusk
Erin Glenn, 710 East Second Street The Dalles, OR 541-296-4707eringlenn.com - Fri-Sun 12pm-5pm, Live music until 10pm on Friday
Memaloose, 101 Lyle-Snowden Road, Lyle, WA 360-635-2887 winesofthegorge.com – Saturday 11am-dusk
Quenett Winery, 111 Oak Street, Hood River, 541-386-2229 quenett.com – Fri-Sun 11am-6pm
Springhouse Cellar, 13 Railroad Avenue, (First & Cascade) Hood River, 541-478-3237 springhousecellar.com Fri-Sat 11am - 5pm, Sunday 1pm - 5pm
Syncline Wine Cellars, 111 Balch Road Lyle, WA 509-365-4361 synclinewine.com, Sat-Sun 11am – 5pm through Dec 20th. Closed Dec 21st-Feb 3rd, reopen Thurs Feb 4th Thurs-Sun 11-6
Wy'East Vineyards, 3189 Hwy 35 Hood River, 541-386-1277 wyeastvineyards.com – Sat-Sun, Dec.19-20th only, 11am – 5pm

By Appointment:

Domaine Pouillon, 170 Lyle Snowden Road, Lyle, WA 509.365.2795 domainepouillon.com
Dry Hollow Vineyards, 3410 Dry Hollow Lane The Dalles, OR 541-296-2953 dryhollowvineyards.com
Jacob Williams Winery, 34 State St (Hwy 14), Lyle, WA 503-577-3906 | jacobwilliamswinery.com
Mt. Hood Winery, 2882 Van Horn, Hood River, OR 541-386-8333 mthoodwinery.com
Marchesi Vineyards, 3955 Belmont Drive, Hood River, OR 541-386-1800 marchesivineyards.com
Viento, 541-386-3026 vientowines.com
Waving Tree Vineyards and Winery, 123 Maryhill Highway, Goldendale, WA 509-773-6552 wavingtreewinery.com

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The Columbia Gorge Winegrowers Association is a not for profit association of local wineries, grape growers, and wine-related businesses from the Columbia Gorge and Columbia Valley Appellations in both Oregon and Washington. Together, the 60+ members of the association promote the award - winning wines and grapes of the Columbia River Gorge region. For more information please visit the website at columbiagorgewine.com or call 1-866-413-WINE.

Columbia Gorge Winegrowers 2010 Schedule of Events

February 12-15, Valentine's Day - Presidents' Day Open House Weekend

April 9-11, Passport Weekend in the Gorge!

April 10th, Gorge Winegrowers Celebration for Hospice

May 28-31, Memorial Day Open House Weekend

September 3-6, Labor Day Weekend Open House

November 26–28, Thanksgiving Weekend Open House