



For Immediate Release
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Thanksgiving Weekend Open House
Gorge Winegrowers Focus on Pairing Wines with Artisanal Treats

October 20, 2009, Hood River, Oregon – The Winegrowers of the Columbia Gorge are pleased to announce the upcoming 'Thanksgiving Weekend Open House', November 27-29. Around thirty wineries on both sides of the Columbia River in the Gorge will be open from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM daily to thank customers and celebrate the holidays with new releases, barrel tastings and festive food, drink and entertainment. Many wineries will also have special gift items and wine discounts, as a convenient way to check off those gift lists while tasting the best that the Gorge has to offer.

This year, many of the wineries are planning special food and wine pairings for their guests; providing inspiring ideas for entertaining during the holidays. Tasting rooms will be featuring locally made cheeses, imported cheeses, hors d'oeuvres, chocolates and even seasonal pies – all perfectly paired with local wines!

The tradition of Thanksgiving Open Houses has been in existence as long as the wineries of the Northwest – more than thirty years. In addition to thanking local supporters and celebrating the end of harvest, The Columbia Gorge Winegrowers view the event weekend as a great opportunity to draw visitors to the Columbia Gorge to discover the variety of grapes grown here and expertly made into fine wines. A complete list of member events can be found on the Upcoming Events page at www.columbiagorgewine.com.

While Thanksgiving Weekend ends the season for a few of the wineries of the Columbia Gorge, many more stay open daily, year-round. A complete list of tasting room hours can be found on the winery page at www.columbiagorgewine.com.

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The Columbia Gorge Winegrowers Association is a nonprofit group of local wineries, grape growers, and wine-related businesses from the Columbia Gorge and Columbia Valley Appellations. Together, the 60+ members of the association promote the award-winning wines and grapes of the Columbia River Gorge region.