

EVOE

Sept. 2023



www.tricitieswinesociety.com

TRI-CITIES WINE SOCIETY



CRUISING THE RHINE

Get ready to set sail on a virtual cruise up the Rhine River. Landing in Amsterdam, you will board the ship for a fun filled day of wine tasting paired along with some small bites. German wines have had a varied reputation, from great to absolutely awful, until fairly recently when they are trying to regain some of their past greatness.

We will start our virtual cruise with a Brut Sekt, which is sparkling wine usually made from the Riesling grape. From there cruisers will have the opportunity to sample wines from different regions and also some varietals that may be unfamiliar. The first flight that participants will be able to compare is a dry (trocken) to a sweeter (Spätlese) Riesling, and then sample Rieslings from a couple different areas. We will end the afternoon with a tasting of a Sylvaner, which is a white varietal from the Franken area, and a German Pinot Noir.

Germany was introduced to winemaking by the ancient Romans. The first records for wine production date back to the first century A. D., after Roman legions first invaded the Germanic lands. The Thirty Years' war (1618 to 1648) ravaged Germany in the 17th century, and brought the dissolution of monasteries, where much of the winemaking know-how was concentrated. In the 1800s, Napoleon dominated the area and took control of all the vineyards away from the church setting up the Napoleonic inheritance rule like that practiced in Burgundy, France.

Germany has a wine industry unique in Europe. While most of the wine-producing countries in Europe model their wine laws and regulations after the French system, Germany has its own way of doing things. Deciphering German wine labels can be a challenge, but learning a few terms can make selecting the correct wine a little easier. The first term you look for on the label is "QmP" Qualitätswein mit Prädikat which means "Quality Wines with Special Attributes." Kabinett are wines that you would keep in your cabinet and share with special guests. Trocken means "dry." Then in increasing order of sugar content: Kabinett, Spätlese, Auslese, Beerenauslese, Trockenbeerenauslese, and Eiswein, a special category.

There are 13 wine producing areas in Germany with the top regions being Mosel, Pfalz, Rheinhessen, and Rheingau. The steepest vineyard in the world is on the banks of the Mosel River where the slope is up to a 76-degree grade.

The event is going to be held at the Barnard Griffin Winery on Saturday, October 21, 2023, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. We have a limit of 36 participants and the cost will be \$55 for members and \$65 for nonmembers. The cutoff date is Tuesday, October 17th. Make your reservations today to insure that you have a place at this fabulous event! ♦

CRUISING THE RHINE

Randy Schreiner and Jim Hartley, Event Chairs

Date: Saturday, October 21
Time: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Location: Barnard Griffin Winery
Banquet Room
878 Tulip Lane
Richland, WA 99352
Cost: Members \$55; Guests, \$65
Limit: 36
Type: A fun educational tasting
Bring: Questioning attitude about varietals
Cutoff: Tuesday, October 17
Make reservations: tricitieswinesociety.com or
mail to Tri-Cities Wine Society, P.O. Box 1142,
Richland, WA 99352.
Cancellation requests to Cher Case, 509-221-1659
or email ca_case@hotmail.com, before Tuesday,
October 17. ♦



2023 Coming Events What to look forward to!

Saturday, October 21
Cruising the Rhine

Sunday, December 10
Holiday Party

Watch for more information!

All information on events is sent to members by email. Reservations for events may be made through the website www.tricitieswinesociety.com or by mailing payment to: Tri-Cities Wine Society P.O. Box 1142, Richland, WA 99352. ♦