

Niles Canyon Railway 2009 Wine & Cheese Special



The Niles Canyon Railway 2009 Wine and Cheese Special will focus specifically on Livermore Valley and demonstrate what exciting wines this local appellation has to offer. As one **of California's oldest wine regions**, the Livermore Valley played a pivotal role in shaping California's wine industry. Spanish missionaries planted the first wine grapes in the Livermore Valley in the 1760s. In the 1840s, California pioneers looking for outstanding vineyard sites began planting grapes in the region. Robert Livermore planted the first commercial vines in the 1840s. Pioneer winemakers C. H. Wentz, James Concannon, and Charles Wetmore recognized the area's winegrowing potential and founded their wineries in the early 1880s.

On the Wine and Cheese Special you will learn more about the great wineries of Livermore Valley and their history and wines. Each wine will be paired with a cheese selected especially for that wine.

Our Wine Educator is Steve Ferree, a Certified Wine Professional with the Society of Wine Educators; he has earned certificates in wine from the Culinary Institute of America and the Wine & Spirits Education Trust. He writes about wine for the Examiner.com on-line newspaper and his wine blog at WineProGuy.com.

Wine Menu August 23, 2009

- **Little Valley Winery** Raspberry Sparkling Wine (www.littlevalleywinery-lavender.com)
- **Cedar Mountain Winery** 2008 Pinot Grigio (www.cedarmountainwinery.com)
- **Ryhan Estate Vineyards** 2004 Rouge-Sang (Red Blend) (www.ryhanestate.com)
- **McGrail Vineyards** 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve (www.mcgrailvineyards.com)
- **Ruby Hill Winery** 2007 Dolce Amore Petite Sirah/Barbera Port (www.rubyhillwinery.net)

Wine Menu August 30, 2009

- **Westover Vineyards** California Rose Champagne (www.westoverwinery.com)
- **Deer Ridge Vineyards** 2005 Estate Chardonnay (www.deerridgevineyards.com)
- **Ruby Hill Winery** 2007 Grapeful Red (Red Blend) (www.rubyhillwinery.net)
- **Retzlaff Vineyards** 2004 Estate Merlot (www.retzlaffwinery.com)
- **Thomas Coyne Winery** 2007 Late Harvest Viognier (www.thomascoynewinery.com)

Wine Menu September 6, 2009

- **Big White House Winery** Peach Sparkling Wine (www.bigwhitehouse.com)
- **Occasio Winery** 2008 Sauvignon Blanc (www.occasiowinery.com)
- **Mitchell Katz Winery** 2006 Zinfandel Alicia's Elixer (www.mitchellkatzwinery.com)
- **Little Valley Winery** 2005 Petite Sirah (www.littlevalleywinery-lavender.com)
- **Cedar Mountain Winery** Tortuga Royale Port (www.cedarmountainwinery.com)