TAKE A TRIP DOWN THE Shawnee Hills Wine Trail

Enjoy wine tasting, shopping, entertainment, picnicking, and more

Beautiful scenery and delicious wines unite to make the perfect getaway on the Shawnee Wine Trail in Southern Illinois.

Five award-winning wineries in Illinois' littleknown wine country create the Shawnee Wine Trail. Alto Vineyards, Owl Creek Vineyard, Pomona Winery, Von Jakob Vineyard, and Winghill Vineyard are located throughout Jackson and Union Counties.

"Each one of the vineyards throughout the summer has outdoor activities, and once in the spring and once in the fall, all of the wineries combine and bring their wines to Alto Vineyards," said Frank Maxton, Maxton Funeral Home, DuQuoin. "It's free to just stop at the vineyards."

Set against the rolling hills of the Shawnee National Forest, the trail offers wine tasting, unique gifts, picnicking, and antique shopping along the way. Drive the Shawnee Wine Trail on a day trip, or make it a weekend getaway and stay in one of the quaint bed-and-breakfasts along the trail.

Whatever time of year you visit, you'll find wines for every taste and entertainment for every interest.



Alto Vineyards is Southern Illinois' largest and oldest winery. Set on 10 acres, the vineyard has earned more than 300 medals



Alto Vineyards' gift shop offers a variety of wine-related items as well as unique foods and crafts.

for its wines since 1988.

Vintages range from dry to sweet and include white, blush, red, and Port wines. Of note is the Chambourcin, which has earned more than 15 medals in competitions.

In addition to wine tasting and picnicking, you can shop Alto Vineyards' gift shop for gift baskets, wine accessories, picnic baskets, gourmet foods, local crafts, and more.

Location: Highway 127, Alto Pass. 15 miles south of

Murphysboro and 8 miles north of Jonesboro

Hours: Year round 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Call for appointments at other times or to schedule a tour.

Location: 2655 Water Valley Road, Cobden. 2 1/2 miles east of U.S. 51, 15 miles south of Carbondale, 7 miles north of Anna

Hours: May through December: Wednesday through Sunday, 12 to 5 p.m. January through April: 12 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Or by appointment. Contact: 618-893-2557, www.owlcreekvineyard.com



Visitors stomp grapes at one of Owl Creek Vineyard's wine festivals.

POMONA WINERY

Pomona Winery specializes in unique fruit wines, producing selections from apples, peaches, blueberries, strawberries, and of course, grapes. Their wines have received medals at international and national competitions, including Best of Show at the Indy International Competition.

Contact: 618-893-4898, www.altovineyards.net

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Owl Creek Vineyard sits on 4 acres and produces dry barrelaged wines, late harvest dessert wines, and more. Owl Creek's dry red, Owl's Leap 1997, is particularly

distinctive, having earned two gold medals and Best of Show at the Illinois State Fair.

Visitors at Owl Creek can enjoy picnicking, free wine tasting, or strolls through the gift shop. Yearly events include Mayfest on Mother's Day weekend, Grape Stomp in June, and Octoberfest on the second weekend in October. Pomona's collection of wines includes Jonathan Oak-Aged Reserve, a semi-dry; Golden and Orchard Spice, sweet apple wines; and highly aromatic dessert wines such as Once in a Blue Moon Blueberry Dessert Wine.

Stop by for wine tasting and picnicking. Annual events include Octoberfest in October and Holiday Open House in December. Location: 2865 Hickory Ridge Road, Pomona. 6 miles west of Highway 127

Hours: April to December: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Saturday, 12 to 5 p.m. Sunday. January to March: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 12 to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Contact: 618-893-2623, pomonawinery@pngusa.net



VON JAKOB VINEYARD

Von Jakob Vineyard boasts dry, sweet, red, and white wines for all meals and occasions, including Illinois' first White Port, a medal winner in many competitions.

The chef will prepare lunch or snacks for you to enjoy, or you're welcome to bring your own picnic lunch. Try their Honey Blush wine, made with chocolate!

Von Jakob hosts a dinner theater every other month and plans many special events throughout the year. The winery is known as "Little Germany" in the Illinois Ozarks.

Location: 1309 Sadler Road, Pomona. 9 miles south of Murphysboro off of Highway 127

Contact: 618-893-4500, www.vonjakobvineyard.com

WINGHILL VINEYARD AND WINERY

Winghill Vineyard and Winery produces six varieties of wine on 6 1/2 acres using fruit from local growers. Selections include dry to sweet table wines and a semi-dry blueberry wine.

While at Winghill, enjoy wine by the glass, have a picnic, and stroll through the vineyard. They even have more than 20 India Blue and pure white peacocks on the grounds! In addition, visitors can peruse the gift shop or see Southern Illinois arts and crafts in the vineyard's art gallery. Winghill is a designated gallery on the Art Trail of Southern Illinois.

Shawnee Hills Wine Trail Lodging Options

Bed & Breakfasts

Hidden Lake Bed and Breakfast	Jonesboro	618-833-5252
Sassafras Ridge Bed and Breakfast	Carbondale	618-529-5261
Shawnee Hill Bed and Breakfast	Cobden	618-893-2211
The Goddard Place Bed and Breakfast	Anna	618-833-6256
Valley View Cabins Bed and Breakfast	Buncombe	618-833-6356
Tool Shed Corner Bed and Breakfast	Cobden	866-300-4063
Iron Mountain Bed and Breakfast	Jonesboro	618-833-5613
Castle Bed and Breakfast	Cobden	618-893-4716

Hotels -

Giant City Lodge Trail of Tears Lodge Super 8 **Rustic Hideaway Cabins** Stone Creek Golf Club **Broken Wheel Ranch**

Makanda	618-457-4921
Jonesboro	618-833-8697
Anna	618-833-1888
Jonesboro	618-833-3386
Makanda	618-457-5455
Alto Pass	618-893-4600
Anna	618-833-3386

Location: 5100 Winghill Road, Cobden. 3.5 miles east of Cobden off of new U.S. 51, 5.2 miles west of Interstate 57

Contact: 618-893-9463, whfarm@midwest.net

Rustic Hideaway Cabins Cabin on the Hill

Anna 618-833-3386 618-529-5667 Carbondale

For more information on the Shawnee Wine Trail, e-mail info@shawneewinetrail.com, or visit www.shawneewinetrail.com.

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• Faculty - Seventy-one percent of the faculty and staff are licensed funeral service practitioners. All faculty members possess a bachelor's degree, with the majority achieving graduate level status.

• Class Schedule - Enrollments are held March and September. Classes are conducted Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:10 p.m. Variations in the schedule are dependent upon particular laboratory sections.

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