



PALATE Brings Together the Best of Finger Lakes Wine Country

First annual showcase of wine, food, and art in upstate New York

(Corning, NY) January 13, 2009 – PALATE, A Wine, Food, and Art Showcase in Finger Lakes Wine Country, will take place February 16 – 22, 2009, bringing together the region's top wineries, breweries, restaurants, museums, and artists. This week of events and promotions will highlight the very best of Finger Lakes Wine Country and give all-access exclusivity to all PALATE Pass holders.

The events and promotions during this weeklong showcase will take place throughout Finger Lakes Wine Country and Corning, New York's dining and entertainment district. Special tastings by local wineries and breweries will be offered as well as wine and food seminars, such as Shannon Brock the wine coordinator at the New York Wine and Culinary Center in Canandaigua, and Nancy Tisch the owner of Bet the Farm in Auburn, New York, daily at 3 PM. Top Finger Lakes wineries, including Dr. Konstantin Frank, Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards, Fox Run Vineyards, Fulkerson Winery, Miles Wine Cellars, and Shaw Vineyards will offer cellar door tastings, special promotions, and host winemaker dinners at the area's leading restaurants. The region's top museums, The Corning Museum of Glass and the Rockwell Museum of Western Art, will offer free admission all week. The week culminates with Cabin Fever, a winter wine festival on Friday night.

Tickets to PALATE are \$50 per person and can be purchased online at www.localwineevents.com, in person at any Wegmans location through the [That's T.H.E. Ticket!](#) program, or by phone at 800.813.2958. Each ticket is good for one PALATE Pass, available beginning February 16 at the Corning Information Center. Each PALATE Pass has a value of over \$300 and includes the following exclusive promotions.

- Daily winemaker dinners highlighting wines from the award-winning 2007 vintage at various restaurants. (Additional fee)
- Free attendance to wine and food seminars led by regional experts every day at 3 PM.
- Free admission the The Corning Museum of Glass and the Rockwell Museum of Western Art.
- Access to a barrel tasting of the highly anticipated 2008 vintage at Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards daily at 1 PM. Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards is a 2008 Rieslings Du Monde gold medal winner and was named one of the Top 25 Tasting Rooms in the United States by *Wine Enthusiast*.
- Access to a vertical four vintage wine tasting of Optimus at Swedish Hill Vineyards daily at 1 PM.
- 2300° at The Corning Museum of Glass, a themed event with live glassmaking demonstrations by guest artists, live music and great regional fare on Thursday, February 19 from 5:30 – 8:30 PM.
- Cabin Fever, a Finger Lakes winter wine festival featuring over 30 local wineries and breweries, including VIP check-in and reception, on Friday, February 20 from 5 – 9 PM.
- Merlot tasting and Merlove screening on Monday at 5 PM.
- Tasting lead by the Finger Lakes Weekend Wino, Rob Lane, at the award-winning Shaw Vineyards, Saturday, February 21.





- Jazz and Gallery Crawl throughout Corning's dining and entertainment district, Saturday, February 21.
- Affordable getaway packages at Finger Lakes Wine Country hotels available exclusively to PALATE Pass holders for the week of the showcase starting at \$113 per night.

Finger Lakes Wine Country is the largest wine-producing region East of California. With over 100 wineries concentrated around the three largest Finger Lakes, the region offers a world-class wine experience in a quaint and charming atmosphere. Finger Lakes Wine Country is an affordable getaway that offers visitors a broad experience in addition to the wine, as it is an area rich in history with a plethora of activities for every member of the family. Visit www.fingerlakeswinecountry.com for further information.

Corning's Gaffer District is named after the term for a master glassblower. Corning is known as The Crystal City given that it is home to Corning Inc. and The Corning Museum of Glass. The Gaffer District is home to many specialty glass shops, including the world-renown GlassMarket located within The Corning Museum of Glass. Also within the Gaffer District is the Rockwell Museum of Western Art, featuring one of the largest Western Art collections in the East. The Gaffer District is unique in that it's a walkable community, complete with brick-lined sidewalks. The District is home to a variety of antique shops, clothing boutiques, other specialty shops, art galleries, a movie theatre, pizzerias, fine dining restaurants, a wine bar, pubs, cafés, and a brewery. Visit www.gafferdistrict.com for further information.

The Gaffer District hosts many events throughout the year, including Cabin Fever. Cabin Fever is an annual wine tasting event, taking place during PALATE. Cabin Fever is a wine and beer tasting event that will be in Corning's Gaffer District Friday, February 20 from 5-9 PM. Stroll the brick-lined streets of the downtown Corning's shopping and entertainment district while enjoying the very best of Finger Lakes Wine Country. During this unique festival, each winery or brewery is located within the shops allowing for the perfect combination of sampling award-winning wine and the region's best brews while enjoying all the Gaffer District has to offer. This fun and festive event features a Mardi Gras theme, complete with beads. This is the perfect event to break those winter blues.

For further information on PALATE and to purchase tickets please visit www.FingerLakesWineCountry.com or call 800.813.2958.

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www.fingerlakespalate.com