

WINTER 2024

ON THE VINE

CAROLINA WINE COUNTRY NEWS



WINTER WINE PASSPORT

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**YADKIN VALLEY
GRAPE FESTIVAL**

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Welcome to Winter in the YADKIN VALLEY



**KITSEY
BURNS
HARRISON**

Don't let the winter doldrums get you down this year! Instead, come spend some time at one of your favorite Yadkin Valley vineyards or even try out a new spot to sip.

Fall was plenty of fun

with lots to do in the region including this year's annual Autumn Leaves festival right in downtown Mayberry and the small but mighty Yadkin Grape Fest in Yadkinville. But just because summer and fall have passed us by doesn't mean you have to stay home. This winter there will be plenty of places and events, like the Yadkin Yuletide Sippin' Tour, to keep you busy.

If its delicious dining you're

in the mood for, as well as some great wines, make a stop at Pilot Mountain's Jolo Winery and Vineyards. This family-owned winery has expanded its reach throughout the Yadkin Valley and boasts a unique wine club opportunity plus an on-site restaurant that receives rave reviews.

While you're traveling this winter to taste wines, why not hand the keys over and let someone else handle

the driving? Uncorked Touring Company is the perfect way to sip in style with customizable wine tour options in the Yadkin Valley and beyond.

No matter where you're sipping this season, enjoy all the magic that this winter time has to offer.

Cheers!

Kitsey Burns Harrison,
Editor

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ON THE VINE

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On The Vine is published quarterly by Adams Publishing Group LLC.

LAYOUT & DESIGN DARLA ALLEN

ON THE COVER:

Jolo Winery and Vineyard in Pilot Mountain.

Photo courtesy of Jolo

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Wine lovers enjoy a cozy time at a local winery during the annual Winter Passport event.

Photo by Sam Dean | On The Vine

Warm up with a WINTER WINE PASSPORT

BY KITSEY BURNS HARRISON

kburns@yadkinripple.com

Cozy up with good company, tasty libations and warm hospitality in the heart of Yadkin Valley wine country this winter.

The 2024-2025 Yadkin Valley Winter Wine & Beer Passport presents tastings at nine wineries, three breweries and a distillery.

Passports are on sale now and are valid for more than four months, from Nov. 24 through March 30, 2025.

“Every tasting room has something different; even wineries that grow the same grapes make different wines, so there’s always something new to try,” said Becky Muhlenberg of Haze Gray Vineyards. “It’s a fun journey because people make friends with others on the passport route and exchange ideas about where they’re going next.”

Participating wineries include Adagio Vineyards, Christian Paul, Elkin Creek, Grassy Creek, Haze Gray, Hidden Vineyard, Roaring River, Shelton Vineyards and Slightly Askew. Breweries are: Angry Troll, Thirsty Souls and White Elephant. Mayberry Spirits is the distillery.

“The passport is an excellent road map for visiting the wineries and breweries across Surry County,” said Jessica Roberts, director of the Surry County Tourism Partnership. “With our foothills weather, during the four months of the passport, you might get to see some flurries out the window as you enjoy your tasting of wine, beer or spirits, or you might hit a day of sunshine and 60 degrees, and I can’t think of a better way to spend a day like that than exploring the beautiful back roads, small towns and tasting rooms of the Yadkin Valley.”

Passport rates are \$110 for individuals and \$175 for two-person passports. The estimated value of each passport is \$350. Passports

make great gifts for holidays, birthdays, anniversaries and romantic getaways. For Winter Wine & Beer Passport details, go to: www.YadkinValleyNC.com or call 336-526-1111.

The Passport also includes discounts at area lodgings so guests can make it a weekend getaway. Lodging discounts of 10% or more are available at the following accommodations: Byrd’s Branch Campground, Elkin Creek Cabins at Elkin Creek Vineyard, Fairfield Inn & Suites Elkin, Hampton Inn & Suites Dobson, Klondike Cabins at Grassy Creek Winery, Mayberry Motor Inn, Riversong Cabins, The Rockford Inn, Six28 House Bed & Breakfast, and Three Trails Boutique Hotel.



Photo by Sam Dean

Elkin Creek Vineyard is among the participants in the Winter Wine Passport event.

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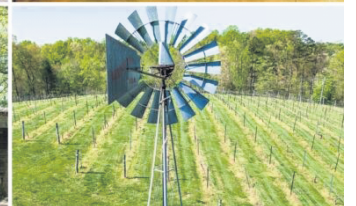
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AUTUMN LEAVES FESTIVAL

BY RYAN KELLY

ryan.kelly@mtairynews.com

Since 1966 the Autumn Leaves Festival (ALF) has been a celebration of the changing of the season, the area's rich agricultural history, and a showcase for artisans and creators.

During that time, ALF has changed in many of the same ways that Mount Airy and Surry County has. That means that the industries represented and exhibitions during the festival have changed from agriculture and agrarian based to more crafts and services based displays.

From Oct. 11 - 13, Mount Airy spread wide its arms and welcomed back to town visitors from far and wide to walk the bustling streets of the downtown and enjoy the friendly atmosphere that the Granite City and its famous fictitious cousin 'Mayberry' have to offer.

During the opening ceremony on Friday, Chairwoman of the Greater Mount Airy Chamber of Commerce Wendy Wood said that ALF, "Is more than just a gathering, it's a celebration of the unique spirit of Mount Airy."

"Attendance was definitely up this year," new Chamber President and CEO Ashly Lancaster said. "It may not have been evident to the casual festival-goer because the crowds were spread out among Main Street as well as East and West Independence Boulevard. We could not have asked for more beautiful festival weather."

While the footprint of the festival along with the various and sundry vendors who sell their wares may have changed, having shrunk down from a time when the festival spread out to Veterans Park and the National Guard Armory to a more recent expansion of the downtown footprint to include more of Independence Boulevard, the excitement that the Autumn Leaves Festival brings to town has not.

"I love the new sections on Independence Boulevard. It has allowed us to open the festival to many new vendors and provided breathing room for the crowds and vendors on Main Street. We also were able to add local musical talent of all genres with a new stage on West Independence," she said.



Ryan Kelly | The News

A view toward the bandstand from the intersection of North Main Street and Oak Street on Friday as the sun had begun to set over a crowded Autumn Leaves Festival.

"Attending the festival has been a tradition for me as long as I can remember, and always with a ground steak sandwich for lunch on Friday. Autumn Leaves is always a family and friends' reunion and this year instead of running into folks for a few hours on Friday, I had the joy of visiting with friends, family, locals, visitors, and vendors for three full days," Lancaster added.

Some ALF bargain hunters had an eye on the calendar as the festival began on Friday for as each turn of the calendar draws Dec. 25 even closer into view. Shockingly, there are but a scant ten weeks until Christmas Day and ALF shoppers had several dozen choices of different types of vendor stalls to enter where they might find the perfect item for their special someone.

For those who are regular ALF attendees, it is a bit of a homecoming to walk the streets between the crush of people and see friends or neighbors. Surry County is not a big place in population, but at over 500 square miles the residents can be far enough away from one another that there is still some novelty running into a friend or forgotten classmate during the festival.

Under the Donna Fargo mural off Main Street, Leslie Schroder of Winston-Salem was sharing fudge from the Bear Creek Candy Kitchen with her sister Layla. The two were mapping a plan of attack for their shopping and elder sister Leslie explained that time



Ryan Kelly | The News

Folks parked in front of the main stage relax and listen to music Friday. With two stages featuring live music, there was more to do at the Autumn Leaves Festival than just rummage through the arts and crafts.



Ryan Kelly | The News

It's a ruff life, to be sure, but this pooch is moving in comfort and style Sunday afternoon as performers entertain passersby.

was of the essence, "I do not move as fast as I once did, so we have to know where we want to go and stick together. I don't want to get separated."



They were later spotted at the Waterfall Studio booth eyeing a creation from potter Sylvia Lawson whose Pilot Mountain designs are well known to locals and visitors alike.

Melanie Blankenship said this was another successful visit to ALF, "It did not disappoint. This was our sixth year going, we stumbled across it by accident the first year on one of our Saturday dates, and it is something we will do as long as we are able. Lots of unique shopping and food and just some great time together. I'm already looking forward to next year."



Ryan Kelly | The News

Don't tell these ladies that there is a perpetual line for the vaunted ground steak sandwich from the Flat Rock Ruritans – it was time to pose for a photo Sunday during the Autumn Leaves Festival.



Ryan Kelly | The News

Shoppers peruse whirligigs and yard art Sunday at the Autumn Leaves Festival.



Ryan Kelly | The News

Traditional dancers from Ballet Folklorico del Museo de Mount Airy perform on Sunday afternoon at the Local Bandstand that was found on Independence Blvd.



Yadkin Valley
APPELLATION

WIN



1 Adagio Vineyards

2 Brandon Hills Vineyard

336-463-WINE
1927 Brandon Hills Road,
Yadkinville, NC 27055
Website: www.brandonhillsvineyard.com
Owners: Larry & Elizabeth Muller
Hours: Friday 1pm - 5pm,
Saturday 12pm - 6pm, Sunday 1pm - 5pm
(Closed January, Open Sat & Sun 1pm - 5pm in February)


3 Carolina Heritage Vineyard & Winery

4 Cellar 4201

5 Childress Vineyards

6 Curran Alexander Vineyards

7 Divine Llama Vineyards, LLC



336-699-2525
4126 Divine Llama Lane, East Bend, NC 27018
Owners: Michael and Patricia West,
Paul Baumbach and Leslie Messick
Winemaker: Dana Aker
Tasting Room Hours: Friday, Saturday, Sunday
12-6 year round
Website: www.divinellamavineyards.com
Location: From NC Hwy 67, turn onto Macedonia Road in
East Bend. Vineyard is .6 mi on left.

8 Elkin Creek Vineyard



336-526-5119
318 Elkin Creek Mill Road, Elkin, NC
28621
Tasting Room Hrs: Thursday - Sunday 11am - 5pm. Wine
Tasting & Light Foods Daily, Brick-Oven Pizzas Every
Sunday. Available for Weddings & Special Events - Private
Luxury Rental Cabins
Website: www.elkin creekvineyard.com

9 Flint Hill Vineyards & Century Kitchen

40 Golden Road Vineyards



336-466-7264
542 Golden Road, State Road, NC 28676
Website: www.grvwines.com
Owners: Crista and Chad Guebert
Hours: Friday 2pm-7pm; Saturday & Sunday
12pm-6pm

10 Grassy Creek Vineyard



336-835-2458
235 Cottage Circle,
State Road, NC 28676
Owners: Derrill and Lori Rice, Jim and Cynthia Douthit
Winemaker: Jim Douthit
Website: www.grassycreekvineyard.com
Location: Surry/Wilkes Counties — West off I-77 at Exit
85 to US 21-Bypass North. left after first traffic light onto
Klondike Road. Left into vineyard after about 1/2 miles.


11 Hanover Park Vineyard

37 Haze Gray Vineyards

12 Herrera Vineyards

41 Hidden Vineyard

13 JOLO Winery & Vineyards




336-614-0030, 1-855-JOLOWINE
219 JOLO Winery Lane
Pilot Mountain, NC 27041
Website: www.jolovineyards.com

Owners: JW & Kristen Ray
Location: Take exit 134 (NC 268) toward Pilot Mountain/
Elkin. After exiting 134, head west on Highway 268 and
go around the round-about, Continuing heading west
on Hwy 268. Travel approximately two miles and veer to
the left onto Pilot Power Dam Road, a slight fork in the
road. JOLO Winery & Vineyards will be your first left.

15 Jones von Drehle Vineyards & Winery

16 Junius Lindsay Vineyard

17 Lazy Elm Vineyard and Winery



336-909-4914
523 Danner Road, Mocksville, NC 27028
www.lazyelm.com
See Website For Hours

18 McRitchie Winery & Ciderworks

19 Medaloni Cellars

20 MenaRick Vineyard & Winery

21 Misty Creek Vineyards

22 Native Vines Winery

23 Old North State Winery & Brewery

38 Pilot Mountain Vineyards & Winery

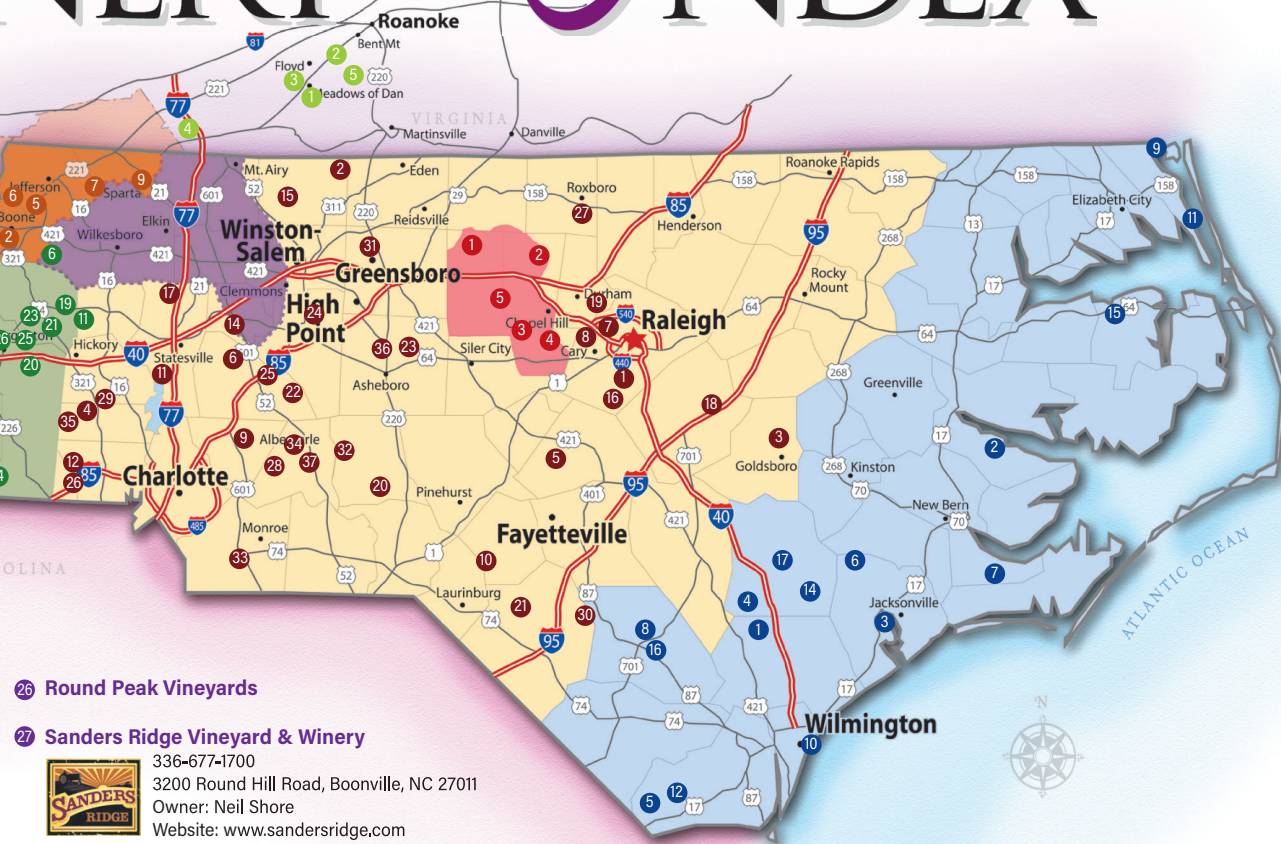
24 RagApple Lassie Vineyards

35 Roaring River Vineyards



336-957-2332
493 Brewer Mill Road, Traphill, NC 28685
Owners: Josephine & Tom Silvey
Wine Tasting Room & Restaurant Luxury
Lodgings, Business Meetings, Weddings, Rehearsal
Dinners, and Private Events.
Website: www.roaringrivervineyards.com

VINEYARD INDEX



26 Round Peak Vineyards

27 Sanders Ridge Vineyard & Winery



336-677-1700
3200 Round Hill Road, Boonville, NC 27011
Owner: Neil Shore
Website: www.sandersridge.com
Hours: Thur-Sun 12pm-5pm

39 Serre Vineyards

28 Shelton Vineyards



336-366-4724
286 Cabernet Lane, Dobson, NC 27017
Owner: R. Edwin Shelton
Winemaker: Gill Giese
Website: www.sheltonvineyards.com
Location: Surry County — I-77 to Exit 93 Dobson. Turn right, then take first right onto Twin Oaks Rd. Go 2.5 miles to the Shelton Vineyards entrance on the right.

36 Skull Camp Wines

29 Slightly Askew Winery



336-835-2700
913 N. Bridge Street, Elkin, NC 28621
Owners: Tim Gentry and Karen Defreitas
Website: www.slightlyaskewwines.com
Location: Surry County — Take Exit 85 from I-77. West on 268 bypass (CC Camp Rd) .9 miles turn left on S-21 (N Bridge St.) go .8 miles, winery on right (yellow house).
Wine List: Large selection of wines. 20+ wines from semi-dry to Dry Whites and Reds, and large selection of Fruit/Sweet wines

30 Stony Knoll Vineyards

31 Surry Community College Winery

32 Sweet Home Carolina Vineyard & Winery

33 Weathervane Winery

34 Westbend Winery & Brewery

6 Shadow Springs Vineyard

7 Windsor Run Winery & Distillery

8 Stardust Cellars



336-466-4454
1202 Curtis Bridge Road,
Wilkesboro, NC 28697
Website: www.stardustcellars.com
Owner: Nick von Cosmos
Hours: Thursday 4pm-9pm, Friday 4pm-10pm, Saturday 2pm-10pm, Sunday 2pm-8pm

9 Dynamis Estate Wines



336-468-6702
1004 Highland Road
Jonesville, NC 28642
Winemakers: Matheson Worrell & Katy Kidd
Website: www.dynamisestatewines.com
Hours: Wed - Sat 11am - 5pm, Sun Noon - 5pm

10 Castello Barone

11 Sotrio Vineyards and Winery

SWAN CREEK AVA

1 Dobbins Creek Vineyards

2 Laurel Gray Vineyards

3 Midnight Magdalena Vineyards

4 Piccione Vineyards



336-571-1024
2364 Cedar Forest Rd., Ronda, NC
28670
Email: info@piccionewine.com

Tasting Room Hours: Every day 12:00 to 6:00pm. Last call at 5:30pm
Live Music Almost Every Weekend. Check our events at piccionevineyards.com or visit us at



5 Raffaldini Vineyards



336-835-9463
450 Groce Road, Ronda, NC 28670
Website: www.raffaldini.com
Email: info@raffaldini.com
Hours: Sunday 12pm-5pm
Monday 11pm-5pm
Wednesday - Saturday 11am-5pm

Help Tourists Find You!
Contact Holly Lamm to add your logo, tasting room hours, phone number, website, etc.
hllamm@elkintribune.com
336-835-1513

PIEDMONT REGION

- 1 Adams Vineyards and Winery
- 2 Autumn Creek Vineyard
- 3 A Secret Garden Winery
- 4 Baker Buffalo Creek Vineyard & Winery
- 5 Black Rock Vineyards
- 6 Cauble Creek Vineyard
- 7 Chatham Hill Winery
- 8 Cloer Family Vineyards
- 9 Cougar Run Winery
- 10 Cypress Bend Vineyards

11  **Davesté Vineyards**
 Davesté Vineyards
 704-528-3882 info@daveste.com
 155 Lytton Farm Rd., Troutman, NC 28166


Website: www.davestevineyards.com

Tasting Room & Art Gallery

Vineyard, Winery, Brewery and Event Venue. Offering dry to semi-sweet wines in both red and white varieties of grape.

- 12 Fiddler's Vineyard
- 14 Garden Gate Vineyards
- 15 Germanton Vineyard & Winery
- 16 Gregory Vineyards
- 17 Grietje's Garden Vineyard & Small Event Venue
- 18 Hinnant Family Vineyard
- 19 Honeygirl Meadery
- 20 Little River Wines
- 21 Locklear Vineyards & Winery
- 22 Morgan Ridge Vineyards & Brewhouse
- 23 Native Son Vineyard and Farm
- 24 Old Homeplace Vineyard
- 25 Old Stone Winery
- 26 Owl's Eye Vineyard & Winery LLC
- 27 Rock of Ages Winery
- 28 Rocky River Vineyards
- 29 Southern Charm Winery
- 30 Stephens Vineyard & Winery

31 Stonefield Cellars

32  **Stony Mountain Vineyards**
 704-982-0922
 26370 Mountain Ridge Road,
 Albemarle, NC 28001

Website: www.stonymountainvineyards.com

Owners: Ken, Marie and Devron Furr

Location: Stanly County – Take Hwy 24-27 East from Albemarle. Turn left at Stone Mountain sign. Turn right on Mountain Ridge Rd.

PIEDMONT REGION

- 33 Treehouse Vineyards
- 34 Uwharrie Vineyards
- 35 Woodmill Winery
- 36 Zimmerman Vineyards
- 37 Dennis Vineyards

COASTAL REGION

- 1 Bannerman Vineyard And Winery
- 2 Bennett Vineyards
- 3 Botticelli Vineyards
- 4 Duplin Winery
- 5 Grapefull Sisters Vineyard
- 6 Huffman Vineyards Winery & Mirey Creek Gifts
- 7 Lake Road Winery

8  **Lu Mil Vineyard**
 910-866-5819
 438 Suggs-Taylor Road,
 Elizabethtown, NC 28337
 Website: www.lumilvineyard.com

Owner: Ron Taylor

Tasting Room Hours: Monday - Saturday (10am - 6pm) & Sunday (1pm - 6pm)

Wine List: Old Cumberland, Taylor Divine, Bladen Blush, Harmony Hall, Cape Owen Red, Merry Christmas, Sir Walter Raleigh, Red Sangria and White Sangria

- 9 Martin Vineyards
- 10 Noni Bacca Winery
- 11 Sanctuary Vineyards

12  **Silver Coast Winery**
 910-287-2800
 6680 Barbeque Rd.,
 Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
Southport Tasting Room
 910-777-5151
 105 S. Howe St., Southport NC 28461

Owners: John and Maryann Azzato

Website: www.silvercoastwinery.com

Location: Brunswick County – From Hwy. 17 (7 mi. north of S.C. border) take Hwy. 904 west. After 1.5 miles, take right on Russtown Rd. After 1.5 miles, take 4th right on Barbeque Rd.

- 14 The Tippy Bee
- 15 Vineyards on the Scuppernong, LLC

16  **Cape Fear Winery & Winery**
 Winery Address: 195 Vineyard Drive
 Elizabethtown, NC 28337
 Phone (844) VINE-FUN

Monday - Sunday Lunch 11:30 am - 4 pm
 Wednesday - Saturday Dinner 5:00 pm - 9 pm
 Website: www.CapeFearWinery.com

- 17 The Country Squire Restaurant, Inn & Winery

HAW RIVER AVA

- 1 Grove Winery
- 2 Iron Gate Vineyards & Winery
- 3 Silk Hope Winery
- 4 Starrlight Mead
- 5 Wolfe Wines

MOUNTAIN REGION

- 1 Addison Farms Vineyard
- 3 Biltmore Estate Winery
- 4 Burntshirt Vineyards
- 5 Calaboose Cellars
- 6 Cerninaro Vineyard
- 7 Cherokee Cellars Winery
- 8 Eagle Fork Vineyards
- 9 Elk Mountain Winery
- 10 FernCrest Winery
- 11 Ginger Creek Vineyards
- 12 Green Creek Winery
- 14 Mountain Brook Vineyards
- 15 Nottely River Valley Vineyards
- 16 Overmountain Vineyards
- 17 Parker-Binns Vineyard
- 18 Saint Paul Mountain Vineyards
- 19 Shadow Line Vineyard
- 20 Silver Fork Vineyard & Winery
- 21 Six Waterpots Vineyard & Winery
- 22 South Creek Vineyards
- 23 Twisted Vine Winery
- 24 Valley River Vineyards
- 25 Waldensian Heritage Wines
- 26 Lake James Cellars

APPALACHIAN HIGH COUNTRY AVA

- 1 Banner Elk Winery and Villa
- 2 Grandfather Vineyard & Winery
- 3 Linville Falls Winery
- 4 Plumtree Valley Vineyards
- 5 Raven Rock Vineyards
- 6 Spencer Mountain Vineyards
- 7 Thistle Meadow Winery
- 8  **Watauga Lake Winery and Vineyards**
 423-768-0345 or 423-768-3633
 6952 Big Dry Run Road, Butler, TN 37640
 Website: www.WataugaLakeWinery.com
- 9  **Williamson Mead and Brewing**
 661-827-7290
 3047 Shawtown Rd, Glade Valley, NC 28627
 Wed - Fri 12pm-6pm Sat 11am - 7pm; Sun 11am - 6pm
 Website: www.williamsonbrewing.com

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA REGION

- 2 Chateau Morrisette
- 3 Foggy Ridge Cider
- 4 Mt. Vale Vineyards
- 5 Villa Appalacia

If you wish to have an extended listing helping your customers to locate and contact you, please call Holly Lamm with *On The Vine Magazine*. We will be happy to invoice you annually for your listing in our quarterly publication.

hlamm@elkintribune.com
 336-835-1513

Yadkin Yuletide SIPPIN' TOUR

BY KITSEY BURNS HARRISON

kburns@yadkinripple.com

This year a number of Yadkin County wineries will offer a special Yadkin Yuletide event during the holiday season in November and through the end of December. This sippin' tour, as it's being called, features a visit and tasting or flight at nine area wineries.

Ticket are \$100 and will include: a visit and tastings of five wines (1 oz. pours) or a flight of four wines (2 oz. pours) at each of the nine participating wineries. Guests will receive a custom ornament from each winery. Please check each wineries hours of operation and private event closings before traveling.

Tastings and/or flight of wines can be shared between two people. One custom ornament from each participating winery

per ticket only. This is a limited ticket event.

Participating wineries include:

- Brandon Hills Vineyards (wine flights)
- Cellar 4201 (wine flights)
- Dobbins Creek Vineyards (wine tastings)
- Divine Llama Vineyards (wine flights)
- Hanover Park Vineyards (wine flights)
- Midnight Magdalena Vineyards (wine tastings)
- Sanders Ridge Vineyards (wine flights)
- Shadow Springs Vineyards (wine flights)
- Windsor Run Cellars (wine flights)

Tickets may be purchased at visitadkin.com/yuletide-sippin-tour or by calling the Yadkin County Visitors Center at 1-877-492-3546.



Eat, Drink, Shop, Play & Stay in the Yadkin Valley

1 Yadkin Cultural Arts Center

226 East Main Street
Yadkinville, NC 27055
Website: YadkinArts.org
Phone: 336-679-2941

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6 The Wisdom Table

101 East Main Street
Elkin, NC 28621
Phone: 336-258-8077
Website: WisdomTable.com

Email Info@WisdomTable.com

Dining starts at 5:30pm.

Weekly menus can be found at WisdomTable.com

Wed - Fri 5:30pm - 9:00pm

Sat 2:00pm-9:00pm

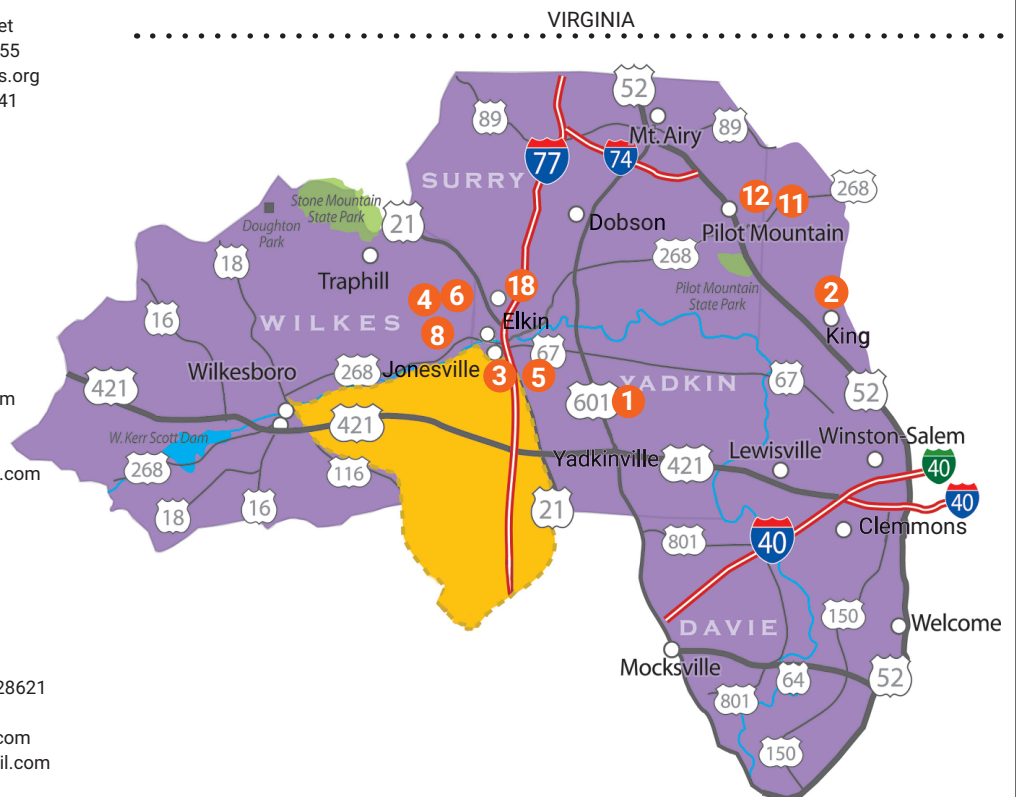
8 Yadkin Valley Chamber of Commerce

11 Mount Pilot Antique Mall

12 Econo Lodge Inn & Suites

18 Cypress Trails Event Center

157 Interstate Way, Elkin, NC 28621
Phone: 910-574-5396
Website: cypresstrailsevents.com
Email: cypresstrailstara@gmail.com



TNNC215427-1



Kitsey Burns Harrison | On The Vine

Tasters enjoy samples from Sanders Ridge Winery in Boonville at the 20th annual Yadkin Valley Grape Festival held Saturday in downtown Yadkinville.



Kitsey Burns Harrison | On The Vine

A wine taster sniffs her sample at the Elkin Creek Vineyard booth at the 2024 Yadkin Valley Grape Festival held in downtown Yadkinville.



Kitsey Burns Harrison | On The Vine

Hanover Park, Yadkin County's oldest vineyard and winery, pours tastings for guests at the 20th annual Yadkin Valley Grape Festival in Yadkinville.



Wine galore at 2024 GRAPE FEST in Yadkinville

BY KITSEY BURNS HARRISON

kburns@yadkinripple.com

The wine was flowing the tunes were playing in downtown Yadkinville on Oct. 19 for the 20th annual Yadkin Valley Grape Festival. Wine lovers were greeted to perfect fall weather with clear and sunny skies.

“It’s a chamber of commerce day,” said Yadkinville Mayor Eddie Norman. Norman has often praised the work of the Yadkin County Chamber which hosts the event each fall.

At last year’s festival, Chamber Director Bobby Todd reflected on the beginnings of the festival almost 20 years prior when it was a small event tagged on to that year’s Harvest Festival. The festival has continued to grow since that time but remains on the smaller side, something that is a draw for its many return visitors who say it’s like spending time with family.

Wineries from the Yadkin Valley, mainly Yadkin and Surry counties, were pouring on Saturday as well as a few wineries from further afield.

In addition to the wine tastings, there were several food trucks on hand and live music throughout the day, including local favorite Camel City Yacht Club which kept attendees grooving with some smooth yacht rock to while away the afternoon.



Kitsey Burns Harrison | On The Vine

Wine tasters get in line for samples of the vintages made by students of Surry Community College's Viticulture and Enology school at the 20th annual Yadkin Valley Grape Festival held in downtown Yadkinville.

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rooted in
family legacy

Nestled in the picturesque landscape of Pilot Mountain, North Carolina, JOLO Winery and Vineyards is a testament to the passion and dedication of JW and Kristen Ray. Founded in 2010, JOLO began with the Rays' vision of creating a multigenerational family legacy rooted in exceptional wine making that reflect the unique character of the microclimate and unique terroir here in the Yadkin Valley. From the first planting of vines, their journey has been one of unwavering commitment to passion, quality, and the desire to provide a world-class experience in the heart of North Carolina. The success of JOLO has been a true family endeavor, with their sons Joey and Logan playing integral roles in the winery's operations. Together, they have worked tirelessly to establish JOLO as a beloved destination for wine enthusiasts and tourists alike. The Rays' dream is to make JOLO a multigenerational winery and vineyard, ensuring that their legacy of excellence continues for centuries to come.

JOLO's growth has been marked by significant milestones, including the opening of the Tasting Lodge and End Posts Restaurant in 2014 and the acquisition of Hutton Vineyards in 2020. This serves as the JOLO Winery production facility with 50 additional acres in Dobson. These developments have allowed JOLO to offer additional gourmet dining experiences paired



Courtesy of Jolo

The Ray Family of Jolo Winery and Vineyards.

with their award-winning wines, in the newly renovated Event Center. In December 2023, the family expanded their footprint by acquiring RayLen Vineyards and establishing a sister winery, Rayson Winery and Vineyards.

As they look to the future, JOLO remains committed to providing world-class wine, food, and hospitality, creating inimitable experiences for all who visit.

Can you do this part below in a shaded box as a sidebar on story?

Jolo Wine Club

The JOLO wine clubs are a special membership program tailored to meet the diverse needs of thousands of its esteemed members. As a member of four different levels that are available to you, you'll enjoy exclusive benefits, including some, if not all, of the following:

- Access to limited-edition and pre-release wines
- Invitations to member-only events and tastings
- Access to Quarterly Wine Club Pick-up Parties
- Access to Four-Course Food & Wine Pairing with Wine Education
- Access to Private Luncheon with the Owners and Winemakers
- Discounts on wine purchases and events
- Priority reservations for JOLO Winery's restaurant and event space
- Personalized wine recommendations
- Access to sold-out library wines

Joining the JOLO Wine Club means becoming part of a community of wine lovers with a passion for fine wines and unique experiences. It's the perfect way to deepen your appreciation for JOLO Winery and stay connected with our latest offerings.

3,089 Wine Club Members and counting across 19 states
Also below in a separate shaded box.

Dining At Jolo

Nestled within the picturesque JOLO Winery and Vineyards, End Posts Restaurant offers an unparalleled dining experience that perfectly complements its award-winning wines. With its enchanting views of Pilot Mountain and the serene ambiance of the vineyard, End Posts has earned its reputation as a culinary destination. Recognized as one of the Top 100 Brunch Spots in the US and celebrated as the Most Beautiful Restaurant in North Carolina, End Posts combines exquisite cuisine with breathtaking surroundings.

The menu features a delightful blend of contemporary and classic dishes, crafted with the finest local ingredients and inspired by the seasons. Whether you're savoring a leisurely brunch or indulging in a romantic dinner, each meal is thoughtfully prepared to elevate your dining experience. The warm and inviting atmosphere, paired with exceptional service, makes End Posts the perfect setting for any occasion, from intimate gatherings to grand celebrations.



JW Ray, owner and founder of Jolo Winery and Vineyards in Pilot Mountain.

Courtesy of Jolo

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Raffaldini Vineyards is open all year for tours and wine tastings. We hold events open to the public throughout the year, like our Four Seasons wine dinners, and we can host your very special private event too. Please visit our website or send us an email and we will be happy to make your experience at Raffaldini one that you will cherish forever!

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