FALL 2025

ONTHE ONTHE CAROLINA WINE COUNTRY NEWS

FALL FUN IN THE YADKIN
VALLEY

NC AWARD WINNING WINES
LUXURY GETAWAY NOW OPEN
IN HENDERSONVILLE

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Petit Verdot

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ON THE VINE

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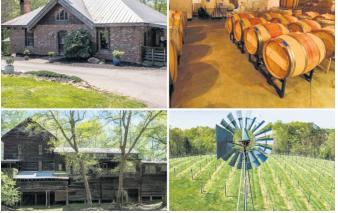
LAYOUT & DESIGN DARLA ALLEN

ON THE COVER:

PHOTO COURTESY OF SHADOW SPRINGS

Shadow Springs Vineyard's 2021 Petit Verdot wins the top honor as Best Single Varietal Red Vinifera in the 2025 North Carolina Wine Competition.

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WELCOME TO FALL



KITSEY BURNS HARRISON

The temperatures should start cooling off soon and the leaves will start to show their brilliance. It's the perfect time to make a trip to the Yadkin Valley to visit your favorite winery, or find a new one to enjoy! Yadkinville will host its annual Yadkin Valley Grape Fest in October and that is the a great way to experience several area vineyards all at once, while enjoy having some fun food and hearing live music. The Camel City Yacht Club is slated to perform again this year and that is a fan favorite for locals and visitors!

For music lovers who also love wine, you will definitely want to be out and about in Elkin this fall for the introduction of the Milltown Get Down, a two-day music festival. This new area festival is a new incarnation of the former Reevestock Music Fest and is sure to be a great time to get down and have some fun.

If a little road trip is in your fall plans, this be sure to check out the new Tuxedo Falls luxury treehouses in Hendersonville. This new boutique lodging experience in the beautiful North Carolina mountains is owned and operated by an Elkin native.

As always, there's plenty to see, do and taste in Yadkin Valley wine country and with the newly announced NC Wine Competition winners, there are even more award-winning wines to try!

Cheers!

Kitsey Burns Harrison *Editor*



PHOTOS BY KITSEY BURNS HARRISON

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

FALL IN LOVE

with this quaint wine festival in Yadkin County

BY KITSEY BURNS HARRISON | kburns@yadkinripple.com

This year's Yadkin Valley Grape Festival is slated for Saturday, Oct. 18 in downtown Yadkinville on S. Jackson Street. This festival is a go-to tradition for many locals and visitors. With a small, hometown vibe, it's a great time to sample from numerous Yadkin Valley wineries in one location.

Among this year's participating wineries will be Shelton Vineyards, Native Vines Winery, Stardust Cellars, Williamson Mead Brewing, Haze Gray Vineyards, Surry Cellars, Weathervane Winery, Shadow Springs Vineyard, and Windsor Run Cellars.

Admission is free for those wishing to enjoy the food vendors and live music. Wine tasting tickets are \$20 in

advance and \$25 at the gate the day of the festival.

Live music at this year's event will feature 60 Watt Combo from 12 noon to 2 p.m. and Camel City Yacht Club from 3 to 5 p.m.

Yadkinville Mayor Eddie Norman is a big supporter of the event, often praising the work of the Yadkin County Chamber which hosts the festival.

More than 20 years ago, the Yadkin Valley Grape Festival began as a small event tagged on to that year's popular Harvest Festival in downtown Yadkinville. The wine 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.



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



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.







From left are SCC Enology Instructor David Bower and students Jeff Hertzberg, John Broughton, and Anthony Parrett, posing with bottles of the Surry Cellars 2024 Reserve Albariño, which won the gold medal for "Best Albariño" at the 2025 N.C. Fine Wine Competition.

SURRY CELLARS

Wins Best Albariño state competition

STAFF REPORT

DOBSON — Surry Cellars, the label for wine produced at Surry Community College through its Viticulture and Enology Program, took away the gold medal for "Best Albariño" with its 2024 Reserve Albariño wine at the 2025 N.C. Fine Wine Competition.

The N.C. Fine Wine Competition is recognized by the industry as one of the toughest competitions in the United States, according to Surry Community College officials.

"All judges are level three advanced sommeliers and perform blind tests with no discussion among the judges during testing. This year's competition was held in Winston-Salem."

The award-winning Surry Cellars 2024 Reserve Albariño was produced in the vineyard and on the campus of Surry Community College at the Shelton-Badgett N.C. Center for Viticulture and Enology.

It is the first entirely vegan white wine to be produced in the on-campus winery. The Albariño variety, which is a white grape characterized by high acidity and thick skin, is native to the Iberian Peninsula.

Judges for the competition look at the varietal typicity (what the variety tastes like) and the regional typicity (what the region has to offer) using the Wine Spectator Top 100-point system That scale is based on criteria set forth by Wine Spectator, which is an organization internationally known as the leading authority on wine. The higher the score, the better the wine. Surry Cellars 2024 Reserve Albariño scored a 91 points making it one of the top 12 wines in the entire competition as well as the highest scoring Albariño in the state of North Carolina, earning Surry Cellars an N.C Fine Wines Case award.

"We are honored to see Surry Cellars be recognized among North Carolina's finest wines," said Enology Instructor David Bower. "This achievement really reflects the dedication and craftsmanship of our students and



RICHARD GOLDEN

A sunset view at Golden Road Vineyards in State Road. Courtesy of Golden Road Vineyards.

faculty, and it showcases the exceptional quality that can be produced right here in the Yadkin Valley."

Surry Community College is the only college east of California that can instruct students with hands-on experience in winemaking, from growing and harvesting the fruit, to processing it in a bonded winery, and then taking it through the bottling line, according to college officials.

Surry Community College offers a degree, diploma, and certificate options in viticulture, enology, tasting room operations, and wine marketing. The Shelton-Badgett N.C. Center for Viticulture and Enology at SCC, which opened the winery facility in 2009, contains classrooms, a climate-controlled wine cellar, microbiology lab, assembly hall, and a 2,500-gallon licensed and bonded teaching winery.

In 2020, SCC expanded its program to include a Sustainable Agriculture facility which encompasses a vineyard shop, classrooms, hydroponics facilities, and an on-site, five-acre teaching vineyard.

To learn more about SCC's Viticulture and Enology Program contact Sarah Bowman, viticulture instructor, at 336-386-3631 or bowmanse@surry.edu or David Bower, enology instructor, at 336-386-3569 or bowerd@surry.edu. You may also visit surry.edu/ wine. SCC is registering students for the fall 2025 semester. Classes begin August 18.

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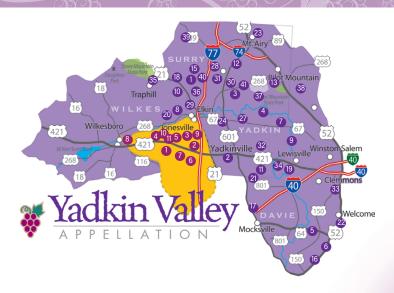
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- Adagio Vineyards
- Brandon Hills Vineyard

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
- 4201 **(4201)**
- **6** Childress Vineyards
- **6** Curran Alexander Vineyards
- 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 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.elkincreekvineyard.com

- 9 Flint Hill Vineyards & Century Kitchen
- 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

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.

- Hanover Park Vineyard
- Haze Gray Vineyards
- Herrera Vineyards
- 4 Hidden Vineyard
- **(B)** 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-abouts, 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.

- Jones von Drehle Vineyards & Winery
- Junius Lindsay Vineyard
- Lazy Elm Vineyard and Winery



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

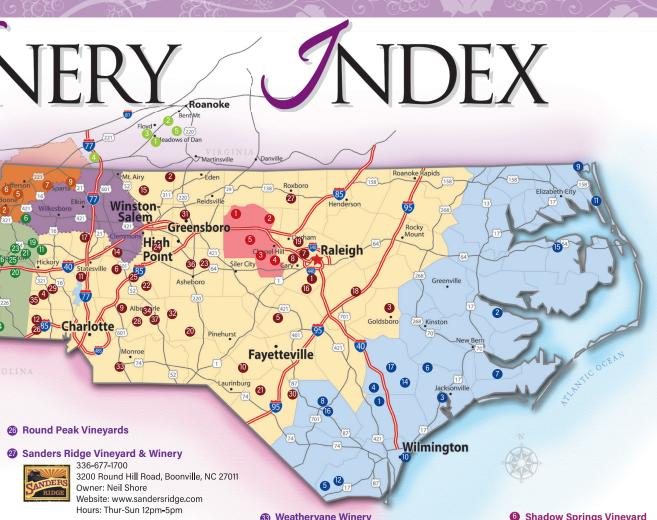
- **18** McRitchie Winery & Ciderworks
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Serre Vineyards

Shelton Vineyards



336-366-4724 286 Cabernet Lane, Dobson, NC 27017 SHELTON 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.

- **39 Skull Camp Wines**
- Slightly Askew Winery



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

- Stony Knoll Vineyards
- Surry Community College Winery
- Sweet Home Carolina Vineyard & Winery

- Weathervane Winery
- Westbend Winery & Brewery

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- Dobbins Creek Vineyards
- 2 Laurel Gray Vineyards
- Midnight Magdalena Vineyards
- Piccione Vineyards



336-571-1024

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Email: info@piccionewine.com Tasting Room Hours: Every day 12:00 to 6:00pm. Last

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6 Raffaldini Vineyards & Winery, LLC

RAFFALDINI 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

- Shadow Springs Vineyard
- 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

O 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

- Castello Barone
- Sotrio Vineyards and Winery

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PIEDMONT REGION

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



Davesté Daveste' Vineyards

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

Website: www.davestevineyards.com

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- 12 Fiddler's Vineyard
- Garden Gate Vineyards
- **15** Germanton Vineyard & Winery
- 16 Gregory Vineyards
- 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
- Southern Charm Winery
- 30 Stephens Vineyard & Winery
- 31 Stonefield Cellars

Seens Meuntain Vincuards

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
- 3 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
- 1 Lake Road Winery



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

Ø

11 Sanctuary Vineyards



Silver Coast Winery 910-287-2800

6680 Barbeque Rd., Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469 Southport Tasting Room

SILVER COAST 910-777-5151
WINERY 105 C. House

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 Tipsy Bee
- 15 Vineyards on the Scuppernong, LLC



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- Cherokee Cellars Winery
- 8 Eagle Fork Vineyards
- 9 Elk Mountain Winery
- 10 FernCrest Winery
- Ginger Creek Vineyards
- Green Creek Winery
- Mountain Brook Vineyards
- 15 Nottely River Valley Vineyards
- Overmountain Vinevards
- 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
- 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

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

website: www.wiiiamsonbrewing.com

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA REG

- Chateau Morrisette
- Foggy Ridge CiderMt. Vale Vineyards
- 5 Villa Appalacia

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Elkin native opens upscale tree houses at

TUXEDO FALLS

TUXEDO — A new glamping retreat provides a mountaintop escape where guests fall asleep to the sounds of nature in upscale tree houses and luxury safari tents.

Tuxedo Falls Luxury Camp opened in early July with four spacious safari tents and two tree houses built by the "Treehouse Guys" of the reality television show by the same name.

Each climate-controlled unit includes luxury linens and handmade local furnishings. All have en suite bathrooms and showers, private decks, kitchenettes and pizza ovens. Some units also include heated bathroom floors, adjustable beds and soaking tubs with long-range views.

Although the retreat is less than 20 minutes from restaurants, attractions and wineries in Hendersonville, its secluded location at the apex of 50 acres of forest land gives the feeling of being miles away from

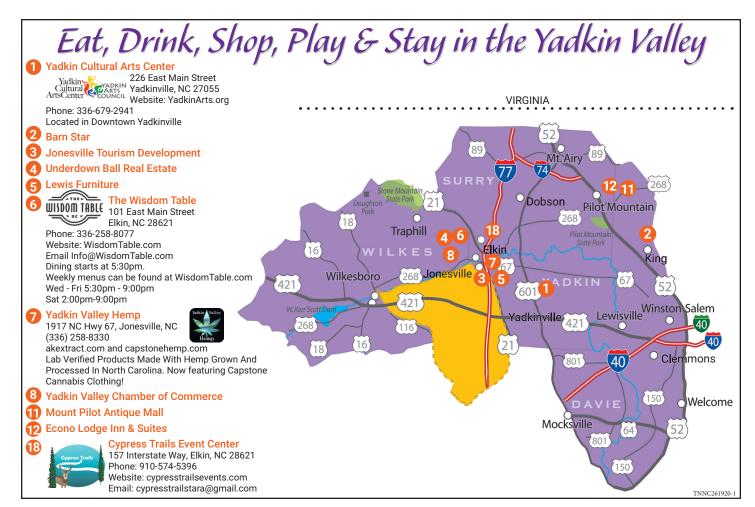


PHOTO COURTESY OF VISIT HENDERSONVILLE

Tuxedo Falls Luxury Camp Warbler Tree House.

civilization.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16





PHOTOS BY KITSEY BURNS HARRISON

Festival-goers line up to snag some tasty treats from vendors during the 2023 Yadkin Valley Harvest Festival in Yadkinville. This year's event is planned for Saturday, Sept. 20.

There will be plenty of fall festivities hosted locally this season. Yadkinville will celebrate autumn on Saturday, Sept. 20 with its annual Yadkin Valley Harvest Festival.

The Yadkin Valley Harvest Festival, hosted by the Yadkin Arts Council, is an annual event where, for one day of the year, the entire downtown area of Yadkinville is transformed by celebration and fun festivities.

Festivities include activities for every member of the family, live music, food vendors, agricultural displays, food vendors, and more. Live music performances will take place throughout the day at the Yadkin Cultural Arts Center Plaza.

The festival will be set up on Elm Street, Jackson Street, and the campus of the Yadkin Cultural Arts Center, including the Willingham Theater and Center Bistro beginning at 10 a.m. Free parking is available in the Elm Street lot (access off of Birch St.), Main Street, and in the surrounding areas.

For more details visit yadkinarts.org/yadkinvalley-harvest-festival/ On Saturday, Sept. 27, the annual Yadkin Valley Pumpkin Festival will be held in historic downtown Elkin.

Festivities begin in the morning with the annual Great Pumpkin Weigh-Off. Portly pumpkins from growers all over the East Coast hit the scales to see which one takes home the \$1,000 first prize. Previous winners have weighed in at more than 1,500 pounds. It is considered one of the most famous pumpkin contests east of the Mississippi.

Attendees are encouraged to arrive shortly after the festival opens at 9 a.m. to view the massive pumpkins, watermelons and other gourds on display. The weighin process begins at that time and continues through lunchtime. Large fork lifts are required to move the giant pumpkins and watermelons to the scales.

The weigh-off takes place in the parking lot of the Yadkin Valley Heritage and Trails Center, 257 Standard Street, Elkin.

Meanwhile, the day-long festival fills nearby Main Street with arts-and-crafts vendors, festival food, live



The Zach Brock band performs during the 2024 Yadkin Valley Harvest Festival.

music, a dunking booth and a kids zone.

For more information visit yadkinvalleypumpkinfestival.com.

This fall Elkin will also welcome its newest event, a two-day music festival called the Milltown Get Down, planned for Oct. 10-11.

For more than a decade, Reevestock Music Festival brought folks together at one of Elkin's best-kept secrets — a wooded amphitheater tucked away on a residential property off North Bridge Street. Founded by Sam Tayloe, lead singer of Time Sawyer, the festival first came to life on his uncle's land as a grassroots effort to celebrate live music, support the arts, and uplift the town that shaped them.

What started in a backyard grew into one of the most anticipated weekends of the year.

That spirit isn't going anywhere—it's just got a new name and a little more room to dance. Milltown Get Down carries forward the heart of Reevestock, this time with its boots planted right in the middle of downtown Elkin. The new name tips a hat to the town's legacy as a textile powerhouse — home to Chatham Manufacturing, once one of the largest blanket producers in the world. Elkin's mill-town spirit is stitched into its streets, stitched into its people, and stitched into this festival.

Among the bands set to perform at the inaurgural Milltown Get Down are The Nude Party, Shadowgrass, Charlie Hunter Trio, Gabe Lee, Michael Daves & Jacob Jolliff, Holler Choir, Maia Kamil, ZG Smith, Time Sawyer, Dashawn and Wendy Hickman present: Sacred Steel, Emanuel Wynter, Drew Foust and The



Competitors line up their giant pumpkins to compete in the weight-off at the 2023 Yadkin Valley Pumpkin Festival. This year's festival is planned for Saturday, Sept. 27.

Wheelhouse, The Hotz, The Burchette Guitar Hour, and Joe's Cousin.

Visit milltowngetdown.com for tickets and more information.



North Carolina wine competition awards MORE THAN 275 MEDALS

STAFF REPORT

RALEIGH — The North Carolina Wine & Grape Council recently awarded more than 275 medals as it celebrated 20 years of exceptional winemaking and judging at the North Carolina Wine Competition.

"North Carolina continues to produce award-winning wines, ciders and mead products as evidenced by this recent competition," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "This year's event brought together top judges, winemakers and experts from across the country to evaluate more than 300 wines from over 39 North Carolina producers."

From traditional European varietals to native Muscadine and innovative hybrid blends, the event showcased the incredible range and quality of North Carolina's wine industry.

AWARD WINNERS

This year's top honors go to:

- 1. Best in Show 'Muscadine' -- Hinnant Family Vineyards of Pine Level (Johnston County) 2024 Dangerous Waters White
- **2. Best in Show 'Vinifera/Hybrid'** Saint Paul Mountain Vineyards of Hendersonville (Henderson) 2024 Albarino
- **3. Best in Show 'Cider/Mead/Dessert'** Noble Cider of Asheville (Buncombe) -Spice Merchant Best in Categories
 - 1. Best Mead Stardust Cellar of North Wilkesboro



COURTESY PHOTO S

Red wines from around the state are poured for the judges in the 2025 North Carolina Wine Competition.

(Wilkes) - Country Peach

- **2. Best Single Varietal Red Vinifera** Shadow Springs Vineyard of Hamptonville (Yadkin)- 2021 Petit Verdot
- **3. Best Red Blend Vinifera** Point Lookout Vineyards of Hendersonville (Henderson)– 2021 Cliffield
- **4. Best Single Varietal White Vinifera** Saint Paul Mountain Vineyard of Hendersonville (Henderson) 2024 Albarino
- **5. Best Dessert/Fortified** Windsor Run Cellars of Hamptonville (Yadkin) 2015 Midnight Run Grand Reserve



This year's North Carolina Wine Competition celebrated 20 years of quality wine making in the state.



Judges make their selections in the 2025 North Carolina Wine Competition.

- **6. Best Hybrid Red** Jolo Winery & Vineyards of Pilot Mountain (Surry) 2023 Pilot Fog
- **7. Best Hybrid White** Shadow Springs Vineyard of Hamptonville (Yadkin) 2024 Seyval Blanc
- **8. Best Fruit Wine** Rock of Ages Winery & Vineyard of Hurdle Mills (Person) NV Sangria
- **9. Best Cide**r Noble Cider of Asheville (Buncombe County) Spice Merchant

In addition to the wine awards, Sheryl McDavid, an American Wine Society Certified Judge who has been integral to the competition's integrity and growth since 2005, was also honored for her 20th consecutive year of judging. McDavid was recognized with a Certificate of Appreciation from the N.C. Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services and Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler.

"North Carolina's wine industry continues to thrive because of the talent, dedication, and community behind it. It's an honor to recognize those who have shaped this journey — from vineyard to glass," said Nicole Chesney, executive director of the N.C. Wine & Grape Council.

For a full list of winners please visit www.ncwine. org



Wine samples await the judges tasting for the 2025 North Carolina Wine Competition.

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Elkin native Lark Elliott coowns the property with her husband, Tommy. Their goal is both preserving and sharing this picturesque spot along the Blue Ridge Escarpment.

"We want to bring back those wonderful memories of summer camp or going camping with your family, but do it in comfort with an upscale experience," she says.

Elliott's favorite part is opening a window and listening to the distant sounds of waterfalls down below the tree houses and tents.

A guests-only hiking trail leads to five waterfalls, including Tuxedo Falls, while another private trail – the Tuxedo Summit Trail – takes guests to the peak of nearby Rice Knob.

Other activities include arts and crafts, birding and stargazing, as well



PHOTO COURTESY OF VISIT HENDERSONVILLE

Tuxedo Falls Luxury Safari Tents.

as guided fly-fishing excursions. Mats are included in each unit for selfguided yoga at several locations on property.

Currently under construction is a 3,300-square-foot lodge that will

include a food market, breakfast area, activity rooms and a bar for guests. The lodge is set to open by the end of September.

For additional info, go to tuxedofalls.com.

