From the HAMILTON COUNTY TOURISM News Desk



Like Napa Valley, Only Closer

It's no secret that vinotourism, or tourism for wine-related activities, is popular in the United States. A 2007 Travel Industry Association <u>study</u> estimated that 27 million Americans engaged in culinary or wine-related travel within three years of taking the survey, and 60% of respondents were interested in culinary travel for the future.

Today...

Wine is a **\$36.3** *billion* industry in the United States

Chardonnay is the most popular type of wine in the US

A bottle of wine contains approximately **600-800** grapes

Travelers hoping for "wine and dine" getaways no longer have to flee to the coasts to taste quality wine and compare notes with expert sommeliers.

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Here are a few Hamilton County wineries for both the seasoned connoisseur and rookie vinotourist:

Peace Water Winery

37 W Main St., Carmel

In the heart of the Arts and Design District, Peace Water Winery hosts tastings and sells bottles of wine made from Napa Valley grapes. A portion of proceeds from bottle sales go to benefit one of several charities at the choice of the buyer!

Harmony Winery

7350 Village Square Ln., FishersAt Harmony Winery, wine enthusiasts can taste a variety of award-winning, international wines or create their own variety!

Blackhawk Winery

28153 Ditch Rd, Sheridan

Blackhawk Winery is one of the only wineries with an accompanying vineyard in Hamilton County. Blackhawk makes an excellent white Traminette, deemed Indiana's signature wine!