

Cayuga Lake Wine Tour – October 2, 2009

HOSMER WINERY. Hosmer winery is founded on the principle that great wine starts in the vineyard. The first vines were planted on the family farm in the early 1970's and the winery was established in 1985. Their 60 acres of vineyards include European and European-American hybrid grapes and are producing some of the finest fruit of the Finger Lakes region. Hosmer wines have consistently earned prestigious medals from both regional and international wine competitions. Their Dry Riesling has won "Best White Wine" and "Best Riesling" awards. Hosmer wines are available in liquor stores and in fine restaurants throughout New York State. They also ship wines to most of the states. Some restrictions apply. See <http://www.hosmerwinery.com/>

THIRSTY OWL WINE COMPANY. Thirsty Owl Wine Company is one of the Cayuga Lake's newest wineries. The company was formed in 2002, but vines have been grown on that site since the 1970's. The vineyard has 150 acres with over 2000 feet of lake frontage. They have both mature plantings and several new acres planted in prime growing areas that border the lake's 300 feet plus waters. The water's ability to regulate air temperature lends to a microclimate that produces exceptional wines. The winery has a very knowledgeable and professional staff who loves taking care of people. The winery has a bistro that operates seasonally. Their wines can be purchased online. See <http://www.thirstyowl.com/>

BUTTONWOOD GROVE WINERY. The winery is planted on land long recognized as being ideal for grape cultivation. Their vineyard produces classic European grape varieties such as Chardonnay, Riesling, Cabernet Franc, and Cabernet Sauvignon. The spacious tasting room overlooks sweeping views of Cayuga Lake and provides the perfect backdrop for tasting their award winning wines and browsing their gift shop or having a leisurely picnic out on the deck. Buttonwood Winery is one of the handful of wineries with lodging facilities for overnight accommodations in their log cabins. See <http://buttonwoodgrove.com/>

GOOSE WATCH WINERY. Goose Watch Winery was opened in 1997 and it is noted as one of the most unique wineries for its setting as well as its wines. It is situated in a beautifully restored century-old barn nestled within one of the area's only commercial chestnut groves. Goose Watch specializes in truly unique premium wines from classic European grape varieties such as Pinot Grigio, Viognier, Lemberger or Merlot. They also cultivate two newer varieties developed by Cornell University: Traminette and Melody. They also have two of the original grape varieties, Diamond and Rose of Isabella, planted in the Finger Lakes region in the 1800's. They produce dessert wines such as sherry and white ports. See <http://www.goosewatch.com/>

AMERICANA VINEYARDS. For over 20 years, visitors and guests have been tasting and enjoying the many delicious flavors of Americana wines. Americana Winery is nestled in Cayuga Lake's picturesque hillsides, a fertile landscape carved out by prehistoric glaciers. Your host, Joe Gober, welcomes you to an informative tasting of Americana's wide variety of wines, from dry whites and hardy reds to light and fruity favorites. They have something for every palette. They have also their own gift shop with home made treats like fudge. See <http://www.americanavineyards.com/>