

The Columbia Cascade Wine Region pairs breathtaking views with noteworthy wines

BY GREG BEVER

If you're looking for an exciting wine-country getaway close to home, don't overlook Wenatchee, Leavenworth, and Lake Chelan.

More than 30 wineries exist in those locales now, in what is called the Columbia Cascade Wine Region. Many are small, family-run, estate-grown operations, with limited wine production, and in many cases you can only buy wine by visiting local tasting rooms. In several cases, wine grapes have been added to apple and other fruit orchards or have replaced those crops completely as demand for them has waned and Washington's wine industry has boomed.

On top of great wine, the natural beauty, unique geological structure, and history of each corner within the region is rich. The area offers recreational opportunities, from outdoor sports to visiting sophisticated spas and enjoying quiet relaxation.

SageCliffe, near George

If you've been to the Gorge Amphitheatre, near George, Wash., then you're familiar with the spectacular views from the cliff overlooking the Columbia River. On property adjoining the amphitheater, the Bryan family has created SageCliffe, an arrangement of architecture, vineyards, and orchards—all of it incorporated within the land's natural rock formations.

SageCliffe offers an array of guest services, such as a full-service spa, an upscale inn, and a venue for corporate events and weddings. SageCliffe also is home to Cave B Estate Winery.

Cave B Estate Winery, at SageCliffe near George, Wash., is built into the land's natural terrain, left. SageCliffe offers a full-service spa, an inn, an event venue, and Trendils restaurant, pictured below.



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