

Swirl, Sip and Celebrate

Washington's growing number of wineries are perfect Northwest reception sites.



winery can be the perfect place for a couple to raise a glass to Washington's finest blend: delicious wine and food, gorgeous vistas and a sweet union.

Interesting architecture, acres of lush vineyards and breathtaking Columbia River views define Cave B Winery in Quincy

BY NOW IT'S NO SECRET THAT WASHINGTON wineries—numbering some 500 statewide—are producing some of the world's most sought-after wines. With spectacularly scenic landscapes that rival the hills of Piedmont, the valleys of Catalonia and the rolling fields of Tuscany, and venues ranging from grand estates to country farms, they've also become sought-after backdrops for romantic Northwest weddings. You don't have to be a gourmand to enjoy wineries as wedding venues, but it helps: Because vintners take food-and-wine pairings as seriously as they take winemaking, many wineries work exclusively with top-shelf caterers who

can expertly pair the best bottlings with fresh, regional fare. But before you book, do your homework. Understand that most facilities are privately owned, and their first order of business is making wine. Wine production will probably not cease for your ceremony, and vineyards are usually off-limits to wandering wedding guests. And because most wineries serve only their own products (although champagne, beer and hard alcohol can often be accommodated), you and your future spouse will need to pick a winery whose products you love and can afford. When all is said and done, though, a

