

# Verde Valley

## WINE COUNTRY TOUR

### FEATURE 5



**Camp Verde**, located within the Verde Valley, enjoys a long Arizona agricultural history. Early settlers discovered a lush verdant region; old records mention hay sales to Fort Verde, cattle drives to Flagstaff, and produce sold to miners and smelters in Jerome and Clarkdale.

**Keeping** in the spirit of this abundant ranching and farming heritage, a new agricultural cottage industry of grape growing has cropped up in close proximity to Camp Verde. At its earliest juncture, finished wines from these Verde Valley wineries are quickly gaining the interest of locals and visitors alike, promising a prosperous era of new viticulture delights. Take a day or two; handpick from this list in order to treat your wine-tasting palette. Tastings available at nominal costs.

#### CAMP VERDE

**1. ALCANTARA VINEYARDS:** 7500 E. Alcantara Way. Located on the beautiful Verde River, select from 10 wines, two whites and eight reds, inside a lovely Tuscan farm-style tasting room snuggled amidst this 10-acre start-up vineyard. Keep your eyes on this winery as big expansion plans are underway including a B&B, bistro, amphitheater, and chapel. From I-17, take Arizona 260 northwest 8 miles, turn right on Thousand Trails to Alcantara Way where it dead-ends at Thousand Trails Resort. Continue left along a long dirt road to the vineyard gate. Open Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. PHONE (928) 649-8463, [www.alcantaravineyard.com](http://www.alcantaravineyard.com).

#### JEROME

**2. JEROME WINERY:** 403 Clark Street. Family owned, this winery with 80 acres under production in Wilcox, has a charming tasting room that offers a shaded outside patio and spectacular afternoon Verde Valley views. Several selections available—Zins, Pinot Grigio, Mourvedre, red Zinfandels, Muscat or champagnes—includes library wines, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Syrah, 15-year-old port and others. Open Fri-Sat, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sun-Thursday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. PHONE (928) 639-9067, [www.jeromewinery.com](http://www.jeromewinery.com). Take Hwy. 260 northwest 12 miles to Cottonwood; turn left on 89A to the Clarkdale/Jerome split; turn left about 5 miles to this cliff-side town.

#### CORNVILLE & PAGE SPRINGS

*Discover a winery trio, all located within a few miles of one another. From Camp Verde, travel north on I-17 to the Cornville Exit #293; west on Cornville Road 9 miles to Page Springs Rd.*

**3. PAGE SPRINGS CELLARS:** 1500 N. Page Springs Road. 3.7 miles from Cornville Road on left, family owned and kid friendly. Enjoy wine on a shady patio, on the deck along Oak Creek or inside the tasting room. Owners of several small vineyards throughout the Valley, this Rhone house features varietals and blends found in the Rhone Valley of France—Roussanne, Syrah, Petite Sirah, and Mourvedre. Favorites includes its flagship, *El Serrano*, a deep, rich blend of Mourvedre, Syrah and Cabernet Pfeffer. Open daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. PHONE (928) 639-3004, [www.pagespringscellars.com](http://www.pagespringscellars.com).

**4. OAK CREEK VINEYARDS AND WINERY:** 1555 N. Page Springs Road. Up the road on the right is another family owned favorite, a 10-acre vineyard featuring a signature Chardonnay, a “best red” Zinfandel and more, including special sweet and dessert wines. Bottle discounts available. Enjoy a pleasant, large tasting room, open daily, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. PHONE (928) 649-0290, [www.oakcreekvineyards.net](http://www.oakcreekvineyards.net).

**5. JAVELINA LEAP WINERY:** 1565 Page Springs Road. This up-and-coming six-acre winery specializes in Zinfandels and reds. Enjoy samples in a small, but pleasant tasting room featuring a fun telephone booth with Superman’s garb and antique barber chair. Javelina offers gift baskets made to order. Open weekends, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. PHONE (928) 274-0394, [www.javelinaleapwinery.com](http://www.javelinaleapwinery.com)

**NOTE:** Hours are subject to change. We suggest you phone ahead or double check web sites.



**COMPLIMENTARY DINING IDEAS . . .**

**CAMP VERDE**  
**(close to Alcantara)**

**SALT MINE CELLARS: 212 W. Finnie Flat Road.** Casual pub and sports bar, offering MADE IN ARIZONA wines from Fort Bowie and Kokopelli Wineries. Located in downtown Camp Verde; afternoon and evening hours—outside patio; family priced; walk-in. Closed Mondays. PHONE (928) 567-0125, [www.saltminecellars.com](http://www.saltminecellars.com).

**COTTONWOOD**  
**(near Jerome Winery)**

**VERDE VALLEY WINE COMPANY and RECOVERY ROOM: 401 S. Calvary Way.** This large retail wine shop and restaurant is located in nearby Cottonwood featuring 600 domestic and international choices with wine tastings available. Large rack features MADE IN ARIZONA WINES; promoted as the “Go to Place” for local wineries. The *Recovery Room Restaurant* is open for lunch and dinner (set hours) — moderately priced; suggest reservations for dinner. PHONE 639-wine; [www.verdevalleywineco.com](http://www.verdevalleywineco.com).

**CORNVILLE**  
**(near Page Springs Cellars,**  
**Oak Creek Vineyards, Javelina Leap)**

**MANZANITA INN: 11425 E. Cornville Road.** Eclectic menu with continental flare, this casual fine-dining restaurant is open Wednesday-Sunday for dinner—moderately priced; suggest reservations. Call: (928) 634-8851.

**WINE FESTIVAL**  
**CAMP VERDE**

**PECAN, WINE & ANTIQUE FESTIVAL:** Held the second weekend in February, Verde Valley and Arizona wineries are showcased at this popular Camp Verde wine-tasting event. Purchase a wine goblet for samples, enjoy pecan pies-by the slice or whole, stroll through antique booths inside two large buildings, learn about grape growing and raising pecans from experts and catch a hayride to a local pecan farm for live demonstrations. Contact: Camp Verde’s Chamber of Commerce for dates and special HOT DEALS.

**Camp Verde Chamber of Commerce**

385 S. Main Street—Camp Verde, AZ 86322

Telephone (928) 567-9294

[www.visitcampverde.com](http://www.visitcampverde.com)

[info@campverde.org](mailto:info@campverde.org).

**Contact Us**