

Closer to the Vines Wine Tour

Yellowhawk Resort & Sparkling House

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Nothing says wine country getaway like a day tasting among the vines. Explore the Southside, Oregon, and Eastside Wine Districts of the Walla Walla Valley, where estate vineyards and gorgeous views are abundant!

8:00 AM: Kick-off your day of wine tasting and exploring the Walla Walla Valley with breakfast from <u>AK's Mercado</u>, located on Main Street in Downtown Walla Walla. For a filling breakfast, opt for biscuits and gravy or breakfast tacos. Alternatively, grab a pastry from their case and a coffee.

9:00 AM: Start the day relaxed! Book a treatment at <u>Sivana Day Spa</u> ahead of time - I recommend a facial. If you prefer to get outdoors, head to <u>Bennington Lake</u> for a relaxing walk with amazing views.

11:00 AM: Arrive at <u>Rôtie Cellars</u> on the Oregon side of the Walla Walla Valley. Today is all about tasting wine near the vines, and Rôtie's tasting room offers vineyard views and wines that won't disappoint.

Reservations are required for tasting.

12:30 PM: Head out to <u>Yellowhawk Resort & Sparkling House</u>, where I make wine, for a tasting and lunch! Taste through our lineup of sparkling wines surrounded by our estate vineyard, and choose from sandwiches, salads and much more on our tasting room menu! <u>Reservations are recommended for tasting.</u>

2:30 PM: It's time to head to the Eastside District of the Walla Walla Valley, where you will find the beautiful Mill Creek growing region of our Valley. Some of my favorite places to taste among the vines in this part of town are Walla Walla Vinters, ALUVÉ or College Cellars of Walla Walla.

<u>Walla Walla Vintners</u> is one of the Walla Walla Valley's oldest wineries, and they have some of the best views around. Surrounded by their Cut Bank Estate Vineyard, you can walk right up to the vines while you taste through their lineup.

Reservations are recommended for tasting.

<u>ALUVÉ</u>'s Owners and Winemakers Kelly and JJ Menozzi call their estate vineyard home. Additionally, their tasting room is nestled among these vines. The Menozzi's fell in love with the Walla Walla Valley upon their first visit and attended the Institute for Enology & Viticulture at Walla Walla Community College (the same place I studied winemaking) before opening their winery.

Reservations are required for tasting.

Speaking of the Institute for Enology & Viticulture, tasting at <u>College Cellars of Walla Walla</u> is always a great experience. The winemaking program at the college supports College Cellars, where guests can try wines from the Walla Walla Valley's rising stars.

Reservations are recommended for tasting.

4:00 PM: Before leaving the Eastside, head out to <u>Tranche</u> for a tasting. Their winery is nestled in Blue Mountain Vineyard, and with views of the foothills of the Blue Mountains, you'll see firsthand where the vineyard got its name. On Friday and Saturday nights through October, you can enjoy live music on their lawn.

Reservations are recommended for tasting.

5:00 PM: If you have time to kill before dinner, head back downtown and check out the <u>Combine Art Collective</u>, located in downtown Walla Walla. It's a great place to shop for special gifts and creations from local talent.

6:30 PM: Finish off the day with dinner at <u>Walla Walla Steak Company</u>. Located in a historic train depot, they serve classic steakhouse dishes with local ingredients, along with other amazing entrees from land and sea alike.

Reservations are recommended.

Local Tip: Hire one of the amazing local tour companies to drive you around during your time in the Walla Walla Valley. You can view some of them <u>HERE</u>.



Listen to the Closer to the Vines Wine Tour playlist, curated by George-Anne, on Spotify as you wander. <u>Click here</u> or scan the QR code to start listening.

