



What's New in Walla Walla?

Grograin Vineyards

Matt Austin, Owner & Winemaker

There's always something new to experience in the Walla Walla Valley! Follow this itinerary on a tour of some of the most recent additions to Walla Walla and discover your new favorites along the way - most of these recommended stops have opened within the last couple of years!

8:30 AM: Wake up and head downtown to [AK's Mercado](#) on Main Street in downtown Walla Walla. AK's Mercado is the new home of longtime Walla Walla Valley favorite, Andrae's Kitchen. In their newly renovated downtown space, you will find an amazing breakfast menu in a vibrant setting. I recommend ordering a breakfast burrito.

10:00 AM: There are lots of new shops to check out in downtown. Pop into the [Walla Walla General Store](#) for a curated selection of home goods. You can also walk down Main Street to the [So Home Collective](#) - an adorable new plant shop.

If you are staying somewhere with a kitchen, consider cooking dinner tonight and use this shopping time to pick up ingredients from local purveyors new to the Walla Walla food scene - [Foodscape](#), for seafood (order ahead!) and much more, [Butcher Butcher](#), for high quality meats, or pick up a growler of craft beer from the newly opened [Five Dollar Ranch Brewing Company](#).

11:00 AM: Head out to the Southside or Oregon Wine Districts for your first wine tasting of the day. I recommend scheduling a tasting at Rôtie Cellars or DILLON - both have moved to their current locations in the last two years!

[Rôtie Cellars'](#) new tasting room in The Rocks District of Milton-Freewater in Oregon is stunning, as are the wines. Until recently there weren't a lot of options for tasting wine in The Rocks District, but now you can survey the stone-covered vineyards from Rôtie's second floor deck. If you look to the South, you can also get a great view of SeVein, where our Grograin Vineyard is located.

[Reservations are required for tasting.](#)



[DILLON](#) winemaker Marc Leahy has worked in nine winemaking regions across four countries, but he just this year opened his tasting room in the Southside Wine District. Taste through his lineup of spectacular wines.

[Reservations are required for tasting.](#)

12:15 PM: Come see us at [Grosgrain Vineyards](#) for a tasting! At Grosgrain Vineyards, we produce a fresh and elegant style of wine, from a wide range of varieties, and increasingly incorporating fruit from our two sustainably farmed vineyards. We look forward to having you and hopefully, introducing your palate to something new.

[Reservations are recommended for tasting.](#)

1:30 PM: Lunchtime calls for something delicious - I recommend grabbing a bite to eat at [TMACS](#). TMACS has been a Walla Walla staple for a long time, but they recently moved into a beautiful new space - the converted Ford building in downtown Walla Walla. The amazing atmosphere is matched by the dishes they create.

3:00 PM: After lunch, head out to the Airport Wine District for a tasting. This area is a hub for new wineries in the Walla Walla Valley. I recommend heading to the Incubators - five winery buildings that are designed to host five new wineries for five years each, before rotating to new occupants. This row of small wineries is where many Walla Walla Valley wineries start, before moving on to other locations.

Schedule a wine tasting at one of the newest on the block - [itä wines](#) or [Hoquetus Wine Co.](#) are some of my favorites. Both itä and Hoquetus have opened within the last year or so, and both winemakers - Kelsey Albro Itämeri and Robert Gomez - are graduates of the Institute of Enology & Viticulture at Walla Walla Community. I like to seek out winemakers that are breaking new ground and trying different things, and you'll get exposed to something unique at each of these wineries

Reservations are [recommended for tasting at itä wines](#), and [required for tasting at Hoquetus Wine Co.](#)

4:30 PM: Stop by one more Airport Wine District winery - [Prospice Wines](#). Located in a little pink building just minutes from the Incubators, winemaking team Jay Krutulis and Matt Reilly are making balanced and elegant wines. They also attended the Institute of Enology & Viticulture, where they met and decided to start a winery together.

[Reservations are required for tasting.](#)

6:00 PM: After a day of tasting, make sure to enjoy a spectacular meal. If you decided to cook, hit the kitchen, and prepare something deliciously local. If you prefer going out to eat, the [Kingleat at Whitehouse Crawford](#) is slated to open this fall. Keep an eye out for their opening date and try it if you can. If not, head out to [Valdemar Estates](#) for a spread of tapas for dinner, paired with their Spanish and Washington wines. Their winery is one of the newest in the Valley and offers an incredible setting.

Reservations are recommended.



Pro tip: If visiting with friends or family, come stay with us at our 4 bedroom, 4 bath vacation rental, [Casa Grosgrain](#), which is located near our winery overlooking our Old Milton Vineyard.



Listen to the [What's New in Walla Walla](#) playlist, curated by Matt, on Spotify as you wander. [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to start listening.

