

*Announcing The Inaugural Illinois Wine Festival™*  
**Two Events to Celebrate Illinois Wine Month**

CHICAGO, IL - Capital Celebrations LLC has announced the inaugural Illinois Wine Festival series, with two distinct events to be held this Fall in celebration of Illinois Wine Month (September). The events, one just east of St. Louis at the Hidden Lake Winery and one just west of Chicago in the Northern Fox River Valley will showcase the emerging Illinois wine industry's extensive list of artisan wines.

Festival dates and locations include:

- **August 25 & 26** - Southwest Illinois at Hidden Lake Winery in Aviston just east of St. Louis
- **September 29 & 30** - Northeast Illinois, just west of Chicago at Festival Park in the Town of Elgin

This first statewide wine festival series, featuring only Illinois wines, is the start of an annual tradition that will showcase the high quality and diverse selection of wines being produced by wineries throughout the Prairie State.

Vintners from many of the Illinois wineries will pour samples of dozens of different varieties of wine produced in the state, ranging from dry and semi-dry table wines to sparkling, fruit and dessert wines. Festival guests will have an opportunity to experience Illinois wines, and talk to local winemakers to learn more about the exceptional wines being produced in the farm wineries of Illinois.

Each of the events will also feature:

- Gourmet cuisine from the region's best caterers and restaurants
- Wine pairing and tasting seminars
- Musical entertainment from the region's best artists
- A fabulous al fresco arts & crafts show, with a select group of exhibitors offering foods, specialty coffees, kitchen accessories and other gourmet products for sampling and sale.

Admission to the festivals includes the collectible "First Annual Illinois Wine Festival" engraved wine glass, wine and food samples, access to all seminars, exhibits and concerts, and the exclusive Illinois Winery Guide that features maps and directions to all of the charming tasting rooms located throughout the Prairie State.

Sponsorship and advertising opportunities, as well as vendor applications are now available on the festival website at [www.illinoiswinefestival.org](http://www.illinoiswinefestival.org). Advance tickets may be purchased via the festival web site at for \$20 in advance or at the gate for \$25.

###

Contact: Carl Henrickson  
Phone: (866) 877 3343  
[carl@illinoiswinefestival.org](mailto:carl@illinoiswinefestival.org)