

Wine events of the season

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area restaurants will have wine friendly foods available.

For additional information www.thunderbaygolf.com or call (800) 729-9375.

SUNRISE SIDE FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL

JULY 16

Harrisville Harbor

Located at the harbor in Harrisville (60 miles east of Grayling) The Sunrise Side Food & Wine Festival enters its 11th year Saturday, July 16. Wine lovers will be in their glory as they sample Michigan wines and try delectable treats from area chefs.

With Lake Huron as a backdrop and live jazz music as part of the relaxed atmosphere, wine enthusiasts can



Photos/David L. Fox

spend a few hours, or all afternoon at this annual event in Harrisville. The gate opens at noon and closes at 6 p.m. Area restaurants will have a variety of foods available to

compliment the wines produced in the Great Lakes State, including several from Leelanau County. Art will be on display and live music will make the afternoon one to remember. Visitors have a chance to talk to vintners about their products and sample. Admission for adults is \$8.

For more information call (989) 724-7473.

RED, WHITE & THE BLUES WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL

AUGUST 13

Northport

This festival takes place at beautiful Haserot Beach next to the harbor in Northport. Formally known as the Northport Wine Festival it was taken over by the Leelanau Chamber of Commerce a few years ago and changed to the Leelanau Peninsula Wine Festival.

The festival is open from noon until 5 p.m. and features continuous music throughout the afternoon along with wines from the Leelanau Peninsula and Old Mission Peninsula wineries.

It is also harvest time, on the peninsula so a farmers market has been added to the mix of local restaurants serving food.

Tickets are \$8 and include a wine glass and two sample tickets. Additional tasting tickets are available for purchase.

For more information call the Chamber at (231) 271-9895 or (800) 980-9895.

HOPPS OF FUN FESTIVAL OF BEER AND WINE

SEPTEMBER 9 & 10

Mackinaw City

Conkling Heritage Park on South Huron Avenue in Mackinaw City is the home of Hopps of Fun Festival of Beer and Wine. The festival celebrates its 9th year on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 9 & 10.

The festival started as a way to celebrate the arrival of autumn and at the same time promote Michigan beer and wine producers. The



Mackinaw Area Visitors Bureau with support and sponsorship of The Michigan Grape & Wine Council and local beverage distributors Fabiano Brothers, Huron Distributors, Bayside Beverage, and Griffin Beverage started the festival.

Approximately 4000 - 6000 people visit the festival annually to sample the over 100 microbrews and 30 Michigan wines.

"This year's festival will be bigger and better than ever," said Marilyn McFarland, executive director of the Mackinaw Area Visitors Bureau. "Our location enables us to expand the product line and accommodate the increasing number of people who enjoy the festival."

As in the past, a wide variety of beer and wine will be highlighted at the festival this year. The popular Michigan wine area will include 12

Michigan wineries and over 50 distinctive Michigan wines. Knowledgeable brew masters and wine experts will be on hand to educate and inform festival attendees.

Hopps of Fun Festival of Beer & Wine is \$5 and includes a commemorative event wine glass, tasting tickets are an additional price. Live entertainment takes place all weekend. Purchase of tasting tickets is required for sampling wine and beer.

For more information on Hopps of Fun Festival of Beer & Wine visit www.mackinawcity.com or call 800-750-0160.

For more information on wine events and festivals in the area visit:
www.lpwines.com or call: (231) 938-1811.

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Photo/David L. Fox