The Survival Guide to

COLORADO MOUNTAIN Ninefest



Drink a Lot of Water

Prevent a post-Winefest hangover by making frequent stops at the free water stations provided by Culligan Water located throughout the Festival (look for the blue water drops on the Festival Map). There are also many food options available in the park and picnicking is encouraged!

Arrange for a Ride Home

No matter how many sips you've had, you need a designated driver. Winefest offers a shuttle service from select Grand Junction hotels (\$15 for advanced or \$20 if purchased day-of). Non-Drinker tickets are available for DDs. There are also cab services and walking paths available, as well as the free shuttle provided throughout Palisade. Please enjoy responsibly!

Practice Festival Etiquette

As with any public event, don't leave your manners at home. Please be polite to other tasters and those who are working at Winefest. Once you've enjoyed your samples, kindly move aside and make room for other guests. It helps keep the lines moving and makes for a better overall experience.

Kick Back and Relax in the Shade

Even for locals, the mid-day temperatures of the Western Slope can be intense. Set aside some time to cool off and relax in the shade. Blankets and folding chairs are allowed at the festival, so you can set up your very own picnic spot! Don't forget to wear your hats, sunglasses and sunscreen.

Create a Tasting Plan

With dozens of wineries in attendance at Winefest, the endless tasting options can easily become overwhelming. If you're unsure of where to start, try picking a theme (such as bold reds, sparkling wines, meads, etc...) and note the differences between each wine in that theme.

Spit Buckets are Your Friends

Moderation is perhaps the best way to ensure a fantastic Winefest experience. It's hard to keep track of the one-ounce pours over the course of a day, though. Spit buckets exist to keep your head and palate clear during tasting. Use them, often! There will be plenty of time later in the day to relax under a tree with a full bottle of wine to enjoy with friends!

Use the Free Wine Storage

At Winefest, you can purchase wine directly from the winemakers. If you've started to accumulate a few bottles (or cases), drop them off at our Free Wine Storage tent for safekeeping! Trust us, it's a much better option than packing multiple bottles around the festival all day.

Act Like a Local

Each year, thousands of visitors travel from across the globe to attend Winefest. We invite all Festival attendees to visit our local wineries, shops, and restaurants to soak in everything the Grand Valley has to offer. We just ask that you treat our home as if it were your own.