





# *Wine Tasting*

***5¢ The Nickel Tour 5¢***

*Mike Taylor*



*How I spend my summer  
vacations...*

*....and lots of time in  
between*

 **OUTLOOK  
INN**

**BED AND BREAKFAST**



**Tefft  
Cellars  
Winery**







# *Do's of Wine Tasting*

- ❖ **Try a wide variety**
- ❖ **Try different wineries**
- ❖ **Different year, vineyard, and process**
- ❖ **Keep an open mind, tastes change**
- ❖ **Drink what you like**
- ❖ **Learn to describe it**
- ❖ **Get to know the winemakers**



## *Don'ts of wine tasting*

- ❖ **Don't rush, the first sip is often different than the next or the last**
- ❖ **Don't drink what everyone says you should**
- ❖ **Don't drink because of price**
- ❖ **Don't let the snobs get to you**
- ❖ **Ask Questions**

# *What is a Varietal?*

❖ Cabernet  
Savignon

❖ Zinfandel

❖ Merlot

❖ Pinot Noir

❖ Syrah

❖ Chardonnay

❖ Chennin

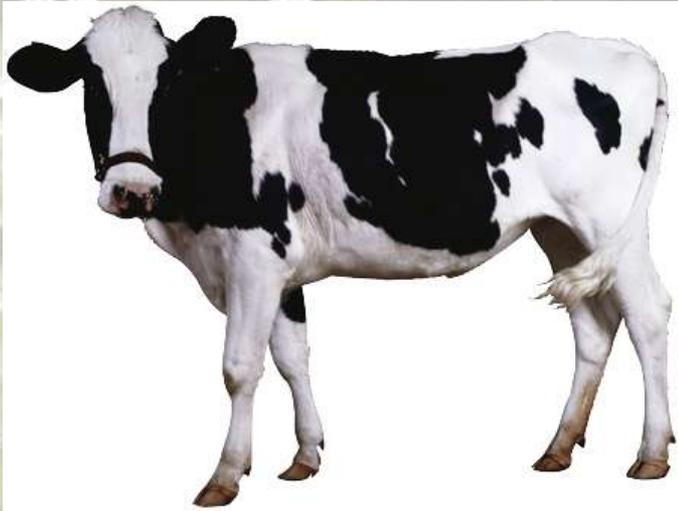
Blanc

❖ Sauvignon

Blanc

❖ Reisling

# *Varietal*



**Zinfandel**

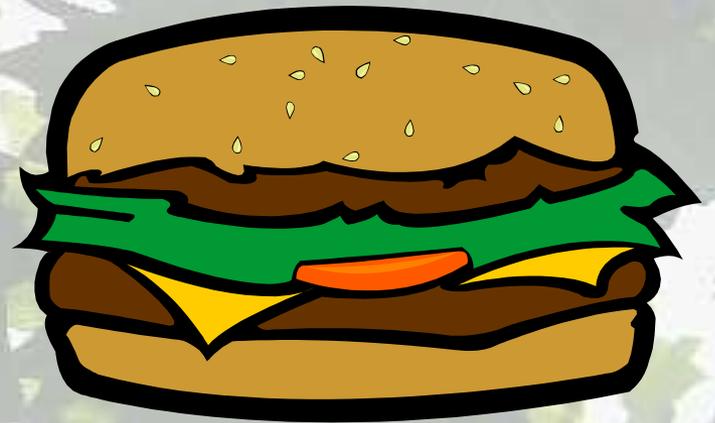
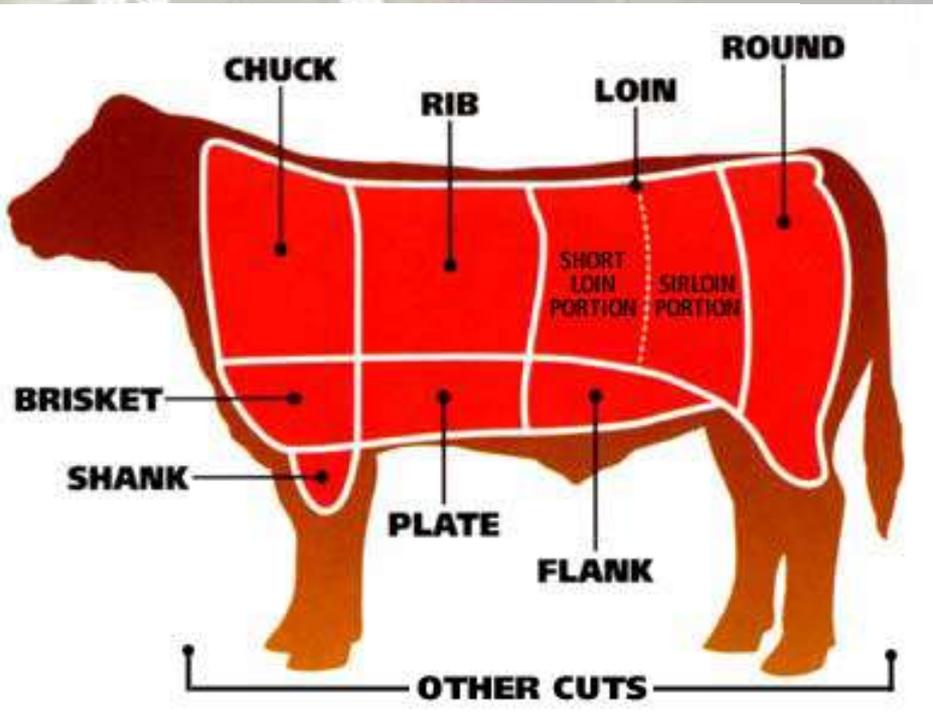


**Chardonnay**



**Chenin Blanc**

# Processing



**SMALLWOODS**  
**FRUIT ANTIQUES**  
Private Selection  
**CABERNET MERLOT**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**CITY OF MERLOT**  
Private Selection  
**Merlot**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**willowsLODGE**  
Private Selection  
**CABERNET SAUVIGNON**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**Bishop Victorian**  
Private Selection  
**Chardonnay**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**Harvest House**  
**RIESLING**

**JACKSON HOLE**  
**CABERNET SAUVIGNON**

**SEATTLE SEAHAWKS**  
Private Selection  
**WASHINGTON CABERNET SAUVIGNON**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**2001 CENTRUM'S 70th ANNIVERSARY**  
Private Selection  
**Chardonnay**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**WELCOME TO THE GOLDEN NUGGET**  
where you strike it rich every day with great food and friendly service when you reach your fortune.  
**CABERNET SAUVIGNON**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**GOLDEN NUGGET CASINO RESTAURANT & LOUNGE**

Private Selection  
**WASHINGTON CABERNET SAUVIGNON**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**SeaGalley**  
Private Selection  
**WASHINGTON MERLOT**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**Seattle Harbour**  
Private Selection  
**WASHINGTON Cabernet Sauvignon**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**JACKSON HOLE**  
**Chardonnay**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**Washington Winemaker Series**  
Featuring Winemakers Paul Yell  
**Private Selection WASHINGTON Chardonnay**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**Royal Oaks Country Club**  
Private Selection  
**WASHINGTON Chardonnay**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**willowsLODGE**  
Private Selection  
**WASHINGTON CABERNET SAUVIGNON**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**Private Selection WASHINGTON MERLOT**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**SEATTLE SEAHAWKS**  
Private Selection  
**WASHINGTON CABERNET SAUVIGNON**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**Private Selection WASHINGTON MERLOT**  
ALCOHOL 12% BY VOLUME - CONTAINS SULFITES

**SENSE**

*Get your ~~5¢~~  
(sense) worth*

**SENSE**

- ❖ **What are the 5 senses?**
- ❖ **More fun than just drinking**
- ❖ **Enhances the enjoyment**
- ❖ **Kind of a gestalt thing**

# *Hearing*

- ❖ **What have you heard about the wine?**
- ❖ **Where was it grown?**
- ❖ **Who made it?**
- ❖ **Interesting process? (redwood, blends)**
- ❖ **Is it a blend or a varietal?**
- ❖ **How does it compare to others?**
- ❖ **Has it won any awards?**



# *Seeing*

- ❖ **What color?**
- ❖ **Deep rich, light, clear, bright**
- ❖ **Legs (alcohol or sugar)**
- ❖ **Oxidized?**
- ❖ **Bottle & cork condition**

Brilliant

Rich

Ruby



*This wine has  
nice legs*



Golden

Translucent

# *Touch*

- ❖ **Temperature? My preference:**
  - ❖ **the lighter color the cooler**
  - ❖ **the sweeter the cooler**
- ❖ **Refreshing**
- ❖ **Warming**

# *The Nose*

*Smell it*

*like you mean it!*

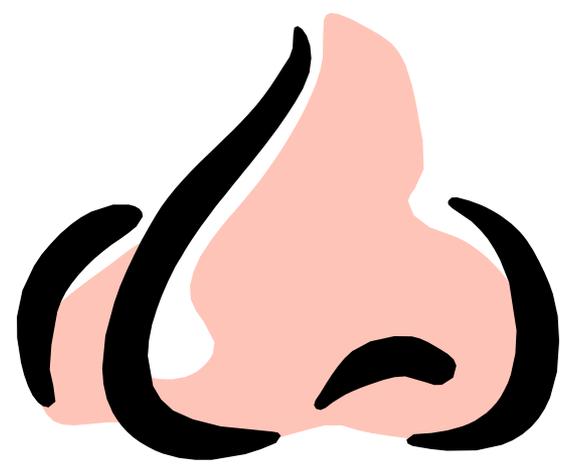
Swirl to releases the fragrance

Aroma is the smell of the grape variety

Bouquet is the smell that comes from fermentation, aging, handling and bottling

What does it remind you of?

Good smell is a great memory



# *Taste*

## ❖ Sip and let your taste buds react

❖ Smooth, harsh, flat, lively, soft, tart, sweet, dry

## ❖ Savor

❖ Is the finish lingering or short, pleasant, bitter, astringent

## ❖ Finish

❖ Does it leave an after taste?

## ❖ Try it again and see if it changes

# *Influences*

- ❖ **Soil, sun, pruning, acid/sugar balance, harvesting**
- ❖ **Fermentation process: skin, yeast variety, residual sugar,**
- ❖ **Aging: time, location, redwood, oak, barrel, tank,**
- ❖ **Blending, bottle size, cork**
- ❖ **Aging: time, temperature, handling**

# *Issues*

## ❖ **Mishandling damages the taste**

- ❖ **Too hot**
- ❖ **Too cold**
- ❖ **Bottle shock**

## ❖ **Aging alters the taste**

- ❖ **The winemaker picks the start**
- ❖ **The wine picks the end**

# *Mistakes Happen*

- ❖ **Bad corks & Bacteria**
- ❖ **Too old**
- ❖ **Your taste can change**
- ❖ **2<sup>nd</sup> sip is better than the first!**
- ❖ **Bad Bottle? Talk to the winery.**
  - ❖ **They want you to have a good experience**



# *Why a difference?*

- ❖ **Where it was grown**
- ❖ **How it was processed**
- ❖ **How it was aged**
- ❖ **How it was stored in the bottle**
- ❖ **How it was poured**
- ❖ **How it was served**



## *Tips from Mikey*

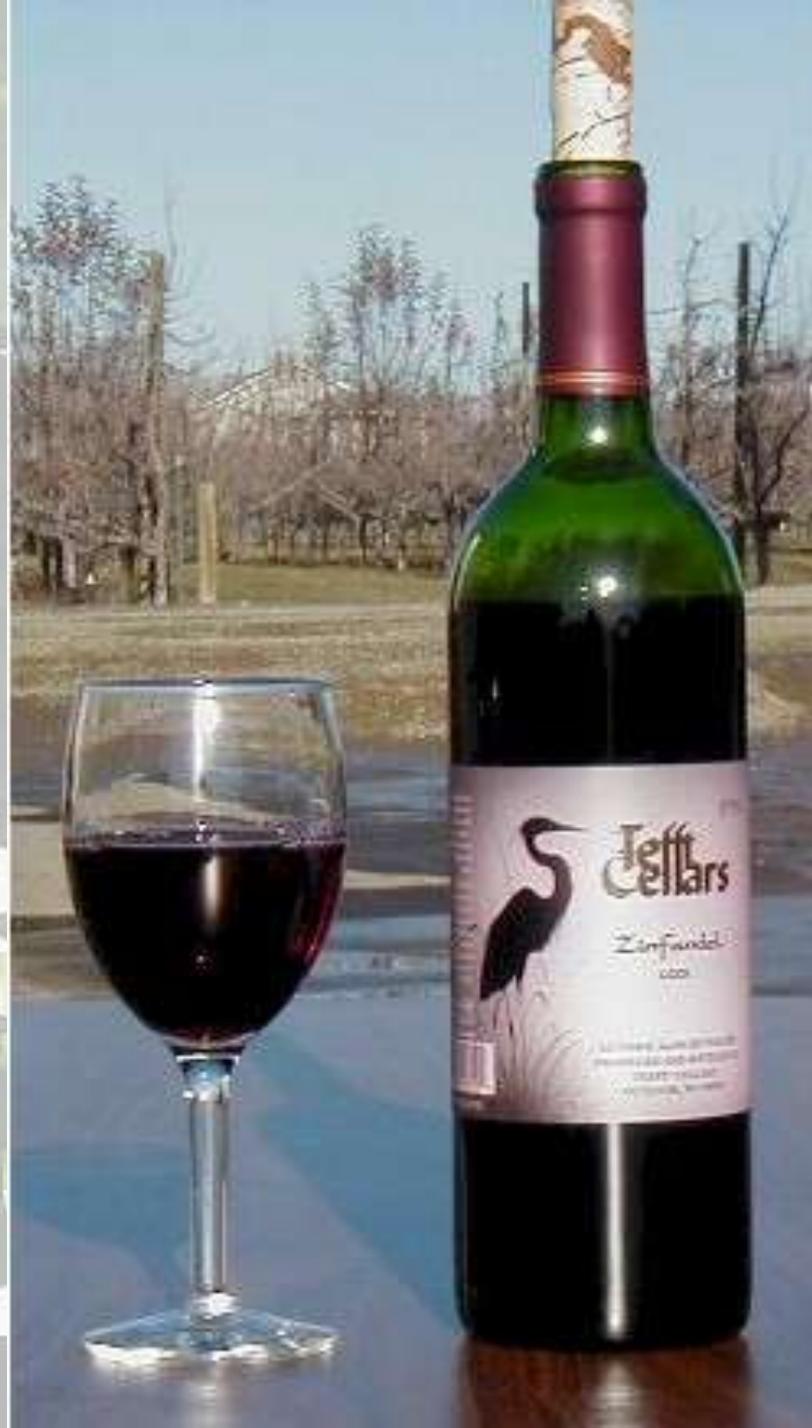
- ❖ **Don't follow the crowd**
- ❖ **Take the time to visit**
- ❖ **Don't insult the art.**
  - ❖ **Even winemakers like some wines better**
- ❖ **Buy more than one bottle**
- ❖ **Shop around**
  - ❖ **The winery isn't always the least expensive**

## *Insider Tips*

- ❖ **Ask for a tour (when they aren't busy)**
- ❖ **In a restaurant check out all the wine not just what's on the menu.**
- ❖ **Take your own wine to dinner**
- ❖ **Get on the mailing lists**
- ❖ **Explore with friends**



# Questions?





ENJOY!

