



Announcing “*The First Sip - Lodi Wine Weekend*”

Lodi Wine Country vintners are inviting wine enthusiasts to enjoy the fruits of their labor at “**The First Sip – Celebrating Lodi’s New Vintage**” on Saturday and Sunday, November 14 & 15, 2009.

Attendees will enjoy mingling with the winemakers as they unveil the new 2009 wines with barrel sampling, blending seminars, cellar tours, live entertainment, a host of educational activities and tempting culinary delights.

Over 40 Lodi wineries will open their doors for this fall wine festival, which runs from 11 AM to 4 PM each day. Visit the website for detailed information on the activities of each winery.

Tickets are \$35 in advance or \$45 at the door. Guests will receive a commemorative tasting glass, event map and admission to all participating wineries. Tickets can be purchased at the Lodi Wine & Visitor Center (209) 365-0621, at www.firstsiplodi.com or www.lodiwine.com. Tickets can also be purchased at each participating winery the day of the event. There is no charge for designated drivers. All tickets are non-refundable.

The Lodi wine region produces over 60 grape varieties, from the traditional Cabernet and Chardonnay to exciting new ones such as Vermentino and Tempranillo. The appellation has experienced exponential growth since the early 1990’s, **with over 75 wineries** now bringing international attention to the local industry.

Lodi Wine Country is located 35 miles south of Sacramento, an hour from the East Bay or Napa, or 90 minutes from San Francisco.

