



WRITING SAMPLE

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Grapevine Looks Forward to GrapeFest Wine Festival

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Tongue-tingling wines, tempting vendors and toe-tapping music are set to delight thousands of visitors in September at Grapevine's 27th annual GrapeFest, a 4-day celebration that bills itself as the largest wine festival in the Southwest United States.

The four-day event kicks off Sept. 12 and runs through Sept. 15 in historic downtown Grapevine, a town named for the wild Mustang grapes that blanketed the land when settlers first arrived in 1844. Texas is the fifth-largest wine producing state in the United States, and Grapevine is considered by many to be central to the Texas wine industry.

Through numerous events associated with the festival, GrapeFest offers area aficionados, as well as folks looking for homes for sale in Grapevine, TX, the opportunity to discover new wines as well as rediscover old favorites.

For example, attendees can sample Texas varietals at the People's Choice Wine Tasting Classic, the largest consumer-judged wine competition in the United States. Citizen-judges at this event can try more than 125 wines from more than 35 Texas wineries in ten categories.

Another highly anticipated component of the festival is the Vintners' Auction Classic, where guests can bid on vacation packages, wine dinners, vineyard tours and more. Attendees can also sample Texas wines and hors d'oeuvres at the event.

Roll up your pant legs and get a little dirty at the GrapeStomp competition. Two-person teams take turns stomping 18 pounds of grapes for two minutes. Winners are awarded the "Purple Foot" award and a glass foot from a Grapevine glassblowing studio. Special categories for seniors and kids make the event accessible to the whole family.

Handmade and laser-engraved wine accessories, serving trays and cheese platters will be on offer from vendors at GrapeFest. Do you absolutely need a new bracelet and matching earrings? You'll also find jewelry from artisans from all over Texas and beyond.

Hop aboard a shuttle and savor a tour of Grapevine's numerous and often-charming wine tasting rooms, enjoying a look at Grapevine, Texas, real estate along the way.

Carnival rides, midway activities, culinary treats, kids activities and five entertainment stages complement the GrapeFest golf and tennis tournaments held near Grapevine luxury homes.

For more information, call the Grapevine Convention & Visitors Bureau at 800-457-6338 or 817-410-3185 or visit www.GrapevineTexasUSA.com/GrapeFest.