



P.O. Box 44 • Westfield, NY 14787 • (877) 326-6571

LIMOUSINE AND BUS GUIDELINES

For Tour Operators and Guests Groups (8 or greater)

Lake Erie Wine Country (LEWC), an association of 23 wineries located along the shores of Lake Erie in western New York and Pennsylvania, attracts thousands of visitors each year. Many of these visitors arrive via buses or limousines. The following guidelines are intended to ensure that wineries, tour operators, and other individuals organizing group visits have a clear understanding as to the expectations and rules at the wineries. These policies are intended to provide pleasant and enjoyable wine tasting experiences which are safe for all including our mutual customers.

Guidelines for Groups (of 8 or more) Visiting Wineries:

- **Reservations:** Call any winery you plan to visit well in advance. While 2 weeks notice is preferable, any notice is better than none. This is especially important for larger groups. Unannounced group arrivals cause considerable strain on tasting room operations, which may adversely impact customers' experiences, particularly during peak periods and seasons.
- **Keep in Touch:** Have a phone number for each winery you plan to visit. Know each tasting room's hours and applicable tasting fees in advance. Please call the wineries to warn them if you are NOT on schedule – expect that there may be some adjustments required if your group is late.
- **Be Thoughtful When Scheduling:** For smaller wineries especially, schedule tours during weekdays or weekend mornings. Some wineries have small tasting rooms with limited staff. Please take this into consideration as you schedule your visits, as advance notice enables wineries to plan ahead and arrange for extra staff.
- **Remember to Purchase Wines You Enjoy:** Many of the wines you'll taste while touring Lake Erie Wine Country are only available in the tasting rooms, so it is a good idea to purchase wines you want to take home.

Special Guidelines for the Tour Operators (Buses and Limousines):

- **Parking:** Park in designated areas (if available) to avoid blocking the entrance or parking lot.
- **Be Considerate:** Wineries operate under specific licenses issued by the State Liquor Authorities that allow them to provide tastings of their wines in order to generate sales. *It is illegal for customers to bring outside alcohol onto winery premises. It is also illegal for wineries to serve customers who are intoxicated or not of legal drinking age.* Drivers should be proactive in handling these behaviors and not drop off intoxicated individuals expecting them to be dealt with by tasting room staff.
- **Be Proactive:** Inform parties (bachelor, bachelorette, etc.) and other clients *in advance* that they need to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at wineries.
- **Take Care:** Do NOT drop off customers on a main road so that they can walk to a winery. Many wineries are on busy roads that are traveled at relatively high speeds. It is VERY DANGEROUS and a SERIOUS LIABILITY RISK for tour clients to walk along these roads to/from a tasting room.

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- **Please:** Do NOT provide alcohol in buses or limousines en route to wineries.
- **AND Lastly:** Please do not bring intoxicated or unruly clients to wineries. For all of the reasons stated above, most importantly the illegality of serving intoxicated customers, drunkenness should not be facilitated by providing or allowing consumption of alcohol en route to wineries. Bringing intoxicated or unruly clients to wineries will result in incidents and/or conflicts that will only serve to harm both wineries' and tour operators' businesses.

Thank you for helping to keep our customers safe and their experiences in Lake Erie Wine Country fun.

**Lake Erie Wine Country
Wineries and Phone Numbers:**

21 Brix	(716) 792-2749
Arrowhead Wine Cellars	(814) 725-5509
Blueberry Sky Farm Winery	(716) 252-6535
Burch Farms Country Market/Wine Shop	(814) 725-0747
Courtyard Wineries	(814) 725-0236
Heritage Wine Cellars	(800) 747-0083
Johnson Estate Winery	(716) 326-2191
Lakeview Wine Cellars	(814) 725-4440
Liberty Vineyards & Winery	(716) 672-4520
Mazza Chautauqua Cellars	(716) 269-3000
Mazza Vineyards	(814) 725-8695
Merritt Estate Winery	(716) 965-4800
Noble Winery	(716) 326-9463
Penn Shore Vineyards	(814) 725-8688
Presque Isle Wine Cellars	(814) 725-1314
Quincy Cellars	(716) 736-2021
Sensory Winery	(716) 736-2444
Seven Vines Winery	(716) 326-6672
South Shore Wine Company	(814) 725-1585
Sparkling Ponds	(716) 736-4525
Vetter Vineyards	(716) 326-3100
Willow Creek Winery	(716) 934-9463
Woodbury Vineyards	(866) NY1.WINE (691-9463)