

Venue Roundup//

Vino Venues

BY DIANNA STAMPFLER

» MICHIGAN IS HOME to nearly 150 wineries, many with private events spaces set against backdrops of picturesque vineyards and wide-open rural countryside scenes. While weddings are among the primary celebrations hosted, many also offer venues ideal for business and corporate receptions or events.

ST. JULIAN WINERY

St. Julian Winery was founded by Mariano Meconi in Windsor, Canada, in 1921. Moving to Michigan (first Detroit, then Paw Paw) after the repeal of prohibition, the winery operated under several names before its current incarnation named for the patron saint of Meconi's Italian hometown, Faleria. The 1,560-square-foot, four-season Apollo room, named for Meconi's son-in-law, grandson, and great-grandson, can accommodate up to 68 for seated or 100 for standing events. With a rustic brick wall, a gas fireplace and floor-to-ceiling windows facing south, the space feels open, yet intimate. Menus can be created by working with one of three approved caterers, while St. Julian provides all of the beverage options including wine, cider, sparkling juices and even distilled spirits. Groups can choose between a standard bar or set up a wine tasting flight from a pre-selected menu, with each guest invited to keep the souvenir tasting glass. Complimentary guided tours of the winery, distillery and cellar spaces can be arranged for any group function, giving guests an educational experience.

MACKINAW TRAIL WINERY & BREWERY

Sitting on a rolling 30 acres, Mackinaw Trail Winery & Brewery just south of Petoskey offers a 40-foot by 80-foot pavilion complete



» Youngblood Vineyard



» St. Julian Winery

PHOTOS: YOUNGBLOOD VINEYARD; ST. JULIAN WINERY