Deeply Rooted in History and Wine

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The Winery at La Grange celebrates an abundance of history, award winning wines and playful ghosts at their upcoming four-year anniversary. Inviting guests to a unique getaway near the Blue Ridge Mountains since September of 2006, historic La Grange is a 20-acre farm winery that produces, processes and bottles their own wine. Origins trace back to the 1600's provide that La Grange has been a desired tract of land for four centuries and since 1790 entertaining visitors in the charming three-story Manor House. Blessed with captivating individuals for hundreds of years, some of the wineries most frequent visitors are its ghosts.



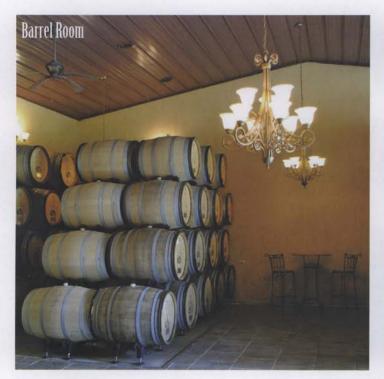
Manor House, Winery at La Grange

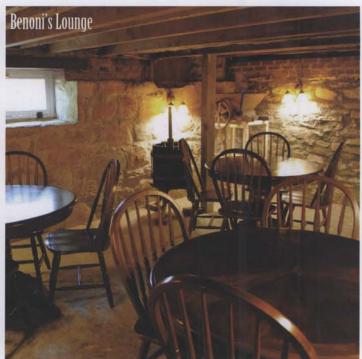
La Grange has changed ownership, size and purpose a great deal since its origination from Robert "King" Carter's Bull Run tract in the 1600's. The Manor House created by George Green in 1790 barely survived its many transformations over the years, but its character is still vibrant. This allowed Chris Pearmund (Winemaker and Managing Partner) to see the full potential that La Grange could offer. La Grange is now converted from a forgotten farm with dilapidated buildings to a successful winery with a remarkable Manor House.

"If I brought all of this together, La Grange can be a place where we focus on history and in wine that is more old world style," Pearmund had said in 2005.

The Cabernet Sauvignon vines grow quietly beside the entertaining Manor House that hosts the Tasting Room and Benoni's Lounge. With a large u-shaped bar, the Tasting Room offers guests a chance to try a variety of their award winning wines like Pinot Gris, Fletcher's Chardonnay, Viognier, Rose of Merlot, Cuvee Blanc, Norton, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Meritage, Tannant, Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon and a Port styled wine called Snort. After the tasting, settle down with a glass in Benoni's Lounge located in the cellar. Beamed ceilings, low lighting, stone and brick patterned walls make this an ideal spot to unwind. The Manor House also has light-filled rooms furnished upstairs. Enjoy a seat near the window overlooking the vines or couch near the original fireplaces. Share views of the vines, the grounds, and the Barrel Room views from the indoor porch on the backside of the house.

A stone walkway lined by 20-foot tall boxwoods lead to The Barrel Room. The Barrel Room provides a special place to savor wine and conversations among friends. Tables and chairs sit in between the barrels, decorated by personalized plaques of their owners. When the weather is pleasant, relax on the outside patios or lawn, speckled with assorted seating, fire pit and a stone fireplace. The Blue Ridge Mountains hug the vineyard making this an ideal place for sunset watching.





While most wineries provide good wine and a tranquil setting, La Grange is exclusive in its claim to ghosts. Friendly and mischievous this collection of lost souls has protected La Grange for centuries. They say that a female servant stands at the front door to welcome guests. Mr. Jessup, prefers the original house, which hosts Benoni's Lounge. A young girl resides in the upstairs parlor, and demands a window view.

"We decorate trees in different themes during the Holiday's and place one in each room. A children's themed tree was decorated and placed in the window of the upstairs parlor. At night, the tree would be perfectly placed in the window, but by morning, the tree had been knocked over. This went on for days. We finally decided to move the tree out of the window, and it has not been knocked down since. She didn't want the window blocked," explained Adale Henderson the Special Events Manager.

Benoni E. Harrison purchased La Grange in 1837 and

lived there until his death in 1869. Benoni has a strong presence throughout the house and the staff at La Grange believes he helped guide the restoration leading them to name the cellar Benoni's Lounge. The most interesting ghostly encounters come from Benoni and his family.

As La Grange was being renovated in 2006 a curious neighboring family stopped by to see the changes. The front door was locked. The parents left the children and walked to the back to try another door. As they tried to open the back door, they both heard a piano playing inside. Assuming it was their children, they entered the house through a side door that was unlocked. The parents called for the children, and the music stopped abruptly. As they searched the house they found the front door locked and the children still standing outside. The children asked the parents where they found the piano. The four of them searched the house and no piano was found.

Further research into the house found that Benoni

HAYMARKET LIFESTYLE

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"It was a pretty bad storm; one of the shudders had come loose. It was banging so hard on the window that we thought it was going to break. For safety reasons we waited until the next morning to secure the shudder to the building. When the employee climbed the ladder to reattach it, the shudder had already been secured. We believe it was Benoni," Henderson said.

Even with all of Benoni's tomfoolery, the employees at La Grange respect him and his wish to reside in the Manor House. Every night before the staff leaves they pour a single glass of red wine (usually Norton because it is indigenous to Virginia), and place it above the mantel in the Tasting Room as sign of respect for Benoni.

La Grange hosts a variety of events for its guests including Extended Hours, In Vino Veritas Spiritus, Movie Nights, Chili and Wine Nights as well as Wine Maker's Dinners. Extended Hours are on Friday's all summer long. Come for a tasting, food, wine by the glass or bottle, the winery and patio are open until 8:00pm. Throughout the growing season on Sunday mornings at 11:00am, is In Vino Veritas Spiritus meaning, "in wine is spiritual truth." Set in Virginia wine country, this sermon draws

truth from many biblical references to wine, grapes, vineyards or the process involved in winemaking. Nestle on the lawn with a blanket, picnic basket, and friends for Movie Night. View a classic movie under the stars on a large screen for two, with two wine glasses and a bottle of their classic wine. Picnic baskets are available with cheese and crackers or an assortment of gourmet food. When autumn settles in stop by for Chili and Wine Night; warm up with tasty chili and wine. Wine Maker's Dinners are ideal to take part in with someone special. Wines are paired with local fare to create a sophisticated dining experience to be shared.

Make sure to visit La Grange September 4-6, for their Anniversary celebration. Remembering four years of success and hoping for many more, this party will include reduced tasting fees, live music, and real artisan jewelry.

Attracting history buffs and wine enthusiasts, come experience the Winery at La Grange!



