



# THE CULTURE OF WINE™

Last fall, a much anticipated exhibit was unveiled at the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum. For the past few months, *The Culture of Wine* exhibit has been unraveling the mystery, magic, and making of wine.

Through the planting process, harvest, and fermentation, visitors are able to see each step of the process illustrated through life-size murals, vines, and actual equipment used in the winemaking process. The presidential tie-in comes in the form of a reproduced Monticello dining room which serves as a testimony to wine's influence on Thomas Jefferson and, by connection, to the American presidency.

As part of the exhibit's grand opening, George Taber spoke about his book *Judgment of Paris: California vs. France and the Historic 1976 Paris Tasting That Revolutionized Wine*. This historic blind tasting judged a selection of California wines as better than their French counterparts, a verdict that catalyzed the American wine industry.

The exhibit will remain open through August 22, 2010, in the Ansary Gallery of American History at the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum in College Station, Texas. Visit [www.thecultureofwine.com](http://www.thecultureofwine.com) to learn more about the exhibit. For more information about wine-related events including monthly issues forums and movies, visit the Library's website at <http://bushlibrary.tamu.edu>.



Visitors learn about the growing process as they stroll through a vineyard modeled after a typical small California winery.



A corkscrew collection shows the variety of tools used by wine connoisseurs.



*The exhibit includes a partial reproduction of President Jefferson's famous fireplace in his Monticello dining room. The fireplace had special hidden dumbwaiters leading directly to his wine cellar.*

Photos courtesy of George Bush Presidential Library/  
Savannah Smith



A vintage tractor and valley bin transport grapes to the processing area.



*Swirl, sniff, sip, slurp, and swallow.* Gathered in the Presidential Dining Room at the George Bush Presidential Library Center, the participants of the Winemaker Weekend on December 5 enjoyed the opportunity to fully experience a variety of Spanish wines.

During a morning seminar and tasting, Wines from Spain's Doug Frost, Master Sommelier and America's eighth Master of Wine, gave an overview of the Spanish wine industry including the background and history of winemaking and the characteristics of the distinct Spanish winemaking regions. After a lesson from Riedel Crystal regarding the profound effect that a glass can have on the taste of wine, participants were able to take home a set of their own Riedel Sommelier tasting glasses. The afternoon seminars and tastings by Vincent Friend of Colección Internacional del Vino and Carlos Martínez Bujanda Mora of Bodegas Valdemar gave guests the opportunity to taste eight wines and record in their wine journals the subtle tastes and flavors that differentiated each.

The day of cultural experiences ended with a culinary masterpiece as attendees dined on a four-course dinner of traditional Spanish cuisine and perfectly paired wines after their private showing of *The Culture of Wine*.

## Chilean Winemaker Weekend – Saturday, April 24

Chile is known for a rich variety in everything—from geography and climate to culture and history. Its wines are no exception! At our Chilean Winemaker Weekend, a morning seminar by a representative from Wines of Chile and an afternoon presentation by Pablo Morandé of Viña Morandé will cover the unique bouquets and flavors of Chilean wines. Experience the beauty of Riedel Crystal, and pair the perfect glass to the perfect wine. Following a private tour of *The Culture of Wine* exhibit, guests will enjoy a winemaker dinner in the Museum Rotunda with a menu of specially paired Chilean food and wine.

## Texas Winemaker Weekend – Saturday, June 12

Everything is bigger in Texas, and in Texas, wine is BIG. Join us for an unforgettable day of wine and food. Pull up a chair in our seminars on Texas wine and learn how to select the perfect Riedel Crystal glass. As the sun goes down, sip your wine and enjoy a private tour of *The Culture of Wine* exhibit. You are invited to an exclusive winemaker dinner in the Museum Rotunda. This four-course dinner will delight the Texas wine and food aficionado in each of us.

For reservations or information, please contact Tracy Paine at 979-691-4014 or [tracy.paine@nara.gov](mailto:tracy.paine@nara.gov).



Photos courtesy of George Bush Presidential Library/Savannah Smith



# Bush Foundation Supporters Make a Winning Bid to Support Education



George Bush Presidential Library Foundation/Wilf Thorne

*President & Mrs. Bush thank the guests for their support of the education efforts of the George Bush Presidential Library Center. In addition to programs through the Bush School of Government and Public Service, the Library Center's education programs reached more than 45,000 kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students last year.*



George Bush Presidential Library Foundation/Wilf Thorne

*Shara Fryer, the celebrity emcee, described the George Bush Presidential Library Center as a "bright sun for all of Texas, and particularly for students at Texas A&M and for surrounding communities of students, kindergarten through high school."*



George Bush Presidential Library Foundation/  
Diandra Garza

*Guests snacked on delectable hors d'oeuvres as the evening's festivities got under way, and they enjoyed a gourmet menu with perfectly paired wines to complement each course.*

In conjunction with *The Culture of Wine* exhibit at the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum, the Bush Foundation hosted a dinner and wine auction at the Houstonian Hotel on Saturday, November 14. Proceeds from the event will benefit the educational programs at the George Bush Presidential Library Center, which is comprised of the Bush School, the Bush Library and Museum, and the Bush Foundation. The Center is a place of possibilities – where students can become leaders, teachers can become scholars, researchers can become historians, and visitors can renew their pride as Americans.

The event was extremely successful as 400+ friends and supporters enjoyed a spectacular reception and dinner. The audience was welcomed by Shara Fryer, former ABC13 news anchor, who served as the celebrity emcee. The Honorable Jeb Bush and his wife Columba were joined onstage by President and Mrs. Bush as they spoke about the vast array of education programs offered at the Library Center. Following the dinner which included an exquisite selection of fine wines, auctioneer Randolph Holford and wine expert Charles "Bear" Dalton engaged the audience in a lively auction.

The live and silent auctions featured wine-related packages as well as many signed collector's items. Bidders were able to choose from a beautiful collection of extraordinary domestic and international wines, many signed by vintners and winemakers. Presidents Bush and Clinton added special signed bottles to the auction. Travel packages included winemaker luncheons and tours with overnight stays in some of the world's most exquisite winery venues. The George Bush Presidential Library Foundation is grateful for the more than 100 friends and supporters who donated items for the auctions.



George Bush Presidential Library Foundation/Wilf Thorne

*Bush Foundation supporters contributed generously to the live and silent auctions. Packages included trips to prime winery locations, items signed by celebrities and former presidents, and many exquisite bottles of wine.*

## *Wine Dinner Sponsors*

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*The Culture of Wine*



George Bush Presidential Library Foundation/Diandra Garza

*Hermen & Lisa Key of Spec's Wine, Spirits, & Finer Foods visit with President & Mrs. Bush. Spec's contributed to the dinner, auction, and George Bush Library events as a retail partner.*



George Bush Presidential Library Foundation/  
Diandra Garza

*The Honorable & Mrs. Jeb Bush served as Honorary Co-Chairs of the George Bush Presidential Library Foundation's dinner and wine auction.*

*(l to r) Christi Collins, Linda Doyle, Mark Burns, and Ed Collins enjoy a glass of champagne and good conversation.*

*Adding a presidential touch, this authentic model of Air Force One was a popular item in the silent auction.*



George Bush Presidential Library Foundation/  
Diandra Garza



George Bush Presidential Library Foundation/Diandra Garza

*Authentic wine accoutrements graced the silent auction area and provided ambiance throughout the Houstonian Hotel.*



George Bush Presidential Library Foundation/Diandra Garza



George Bush Presidential Library Foundation/Diandra Garza

*The audience benefited from the expert knowledge of Bear Dalton, who has been in the wine business for more than 20 years, and Randolph Holford, who has been the auctioneer at the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo (HLSR) for the last 25 years. The HLSR includes one of the nation's top wine auctions.*