



WINEMAKER'S CHOOSE- YOUR-OWN ADVENTURE

Valdemar Estates

Devyani Gupta, Winemaker & Viticulturist

Winemakers - they are just like you! Spend a day touring around the Walla Walla Valley, selecting your path just like the winemakers do on their days off. Enjoy the day to day charm through the eyes of a local.

8:30 AM: Visit the [Walla Walla Roastery](#) for coffee and pastries for breakfast. The Roastery makes some incredible coffee - I would definitely recommend getting a few bags to take home.

9:15 AM: After you've had your coffee, head over to [Bennington Lake](#) to take a walk on the [Mill Creek Trail](#). This trail is gorgeous in the fall as the leaves change.

11:00 AM: Begin the day's wine tastings at [Tranche Estate](#). Their tasting room is surrounded by their beautiful Blue Mountain Vineyard - which we source some of our grapes from for Valdemar wines. It's the perfect spot to enjoy the beauty of wine country. Tranche also offers vineyard ATV tours - inquire with their team to schedule one and enjoy panoramic views of the blues and stomp through the vineyard.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

12:30 PM: Head to downtown for lunch at [Brasserie Four](#). This lunch spot is a favorite among Walla Walla Valley winemakers, and a great spot to people watch in downtown. Try the Niçoise salad for something light and fresh, or share a delicious bowl of bouillabaisse.

[Reservations are recommended.](#)

1:30 PM: After lunch, swing by [Bright's Candies](#) and grab some candy of your choosing - chocolate, fruity or something else! It's always good to have snacks during your tastings.

1:45 PM: For your afternoon of tasting, choose one of two paths - newer or founding wineries! Either option will offer a wonderful experience - and you can take the path you don't choose on your next visit.



If you want to try some newer wineries, start at [ALUVÉ](#) in the Eastside Wine District. Not only are the wines and owners JJ & Kelly wonderful, but their winery in the middle of their vineyard is a great spot to relax. JJ & Kelly attended the Walla Walla Community Enology & Viticulture Program, just like me!

[Reservations required for tasting.](#)

If you want to take the founding wineries path, head out to the Westside Wine District for a tasting at [L'Ecole N° 41](#). L'Ecole has been making showstopping wines for decades, and their tasting room in a historic schoolhouse is so unique. They were the third winery in the Walla Walla Valley.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

2:45 PM: Head to your next tasting location.

If you are on the “new” path, head over to the Incubators - an area that is home to five newer wineries in the Airport Wine District. Many of the owners and winemakers at these wineries also graduated from the Enology & Viticulture Program. A few of my favorites are [itā wines](#), [SMAK Wines](#), and [Hoquetus Wine Co.](#)

[Reservations recommended for tasting. Visit the winery of your choosing's website to make one.](#)

If you are on the “founding wineries” path, head to [Woodward Canyon](#) - right next door to L'Ecole N° 41! They have a strong winemaking tradition, and a quaint tasting room. If the weather is nice, enjoy some time in their garden. They were the second winery in the Walla Walla Valley.

4:00 PM: Make your way to the Southside Wine District of the Walla Walla Valley!

On the “new” path visit [Grosgrain Vineyards](#). Grosgrain has been open for a couple of years, and in that time they have planted some grape varieties that are new to the Walla Walla Valley. It's always fun to taste through their lineup.

[Reservations are required for tasting.](#)

On the “founding wineries” path, go for a tasting at [Amavi Cellars](#). Their tasting room features great views of the Valley and amazing wines. They also offer special experiences, such as a sensory experience, vineyard tours and happy hour! They have been making wine since 2003.

[Reservations are recommended for tasting.](#)

5:30 PM: End your day where I make wine - [Valdemar Estates](#)! Enjoy a tasting and great views of the Blue Mountains. Enjoy a dinner of tapas and raciones while you are with us! If you are visiting on a Thursday, try the Txuleta (ribeye steak) and on Sunday, order the Paella. Cap off an amazing meal with the basque cheesecake - it's incredible.

[Reservations are recommended for tasting and dining.](#)



Listen to the Winemaker's Adventure playlist, curated by Devyani, on Spotify as you wander. [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to start listening.





GOOD EATS & DRINKS

Lagana Cellars

Jason Fox & Todd Bernave, Owners & Winemakers

The Walla Walla Valley has become a known culinary hub. With James Beard Award Winning restaurants, local ingredients and thousands of wines made locally, primed for pairing, it's no wonder. Get a taste of some of the best the Walla Walla Valley has to offer with this culinary tour!

8:30 AM: Grab breakfast at [Bacon & Eggs](#) - one of Walla Walla's most popular breakfast spots. Their Papas Pastores and Texas Eggs are hands down our favorite items on the menu, and you can't go wrong ordering a couple of Morning Paper cocktails.

10:00 AM: Get your day of tasting started out at [Grosgrain Vineyards](#) in the Southside District of the Walla Walla Valley. Their wine portfolio is full of uncommon and unique varieties or styles that you may not be able to find anywhere else in the region.

[Reservations are recommended for tasting.](#)

11:30 AM: Head back to downtown Walla Walla for a tasting with us at [Lagana Cellars](#). Lagana Cellars was born in 2013 then reinvigorated through our friendship and collaboration in 2017. Our goal is to produce stellar, terroir-driven wines using some of the best fruit sourced from the Walla Walla Valley. We make small lots of both whites and reds, often focusing on a single varietal from a specific vineyard.

[Reservations are recommended for tasting.](#)

12:45 PM: Stop by [Graze](#), just a few blocks from our downtown tasting room. They have salads, hot and cold sandwiches and paninis - so there's something for everybody. We both recommend ordering the Sexy Time panini.

2:00 PM: Head back to Second Avenue for a tasting at [Kontos Cellars](#). The Kontos Family has been in the Walla Walla Valley for over six generations. Winemaker Cameron Kontos focuses on grapes grown in the Walla Walla Valley, and their tasting room is the perfect spot to get a taste of something truly local.

[Reservations are recommended for tasting.](#)



3:30 PM: Take a drive out to the beautiful Eastside Wine District of the Walla Walla Valley to taste wine at [ALUVÉ](#). Husband and wife team JJ and Kelly Menozzi are making some killer wines. The two of them served as Air Force pilots for over 23 years, and now work together to make some incredible wines.

[Reservations are required for tasting.](#)

5:00 PM: Spend the evening restaurant hopping to get a taste of some of the best food the Walla Walla Valley has to offer! Start off with cocktails and some bites at [AK's Mercado](#) on Main Street. When you walk in their front door, you'll feel like you've been transported to Oaxaca. Order a plate of nachos, or perhaps a couple of tacos to share, paired with a margarita or mezcal Paloma.

6:00 PM: It's time for dinner at [Hattaway's on Alder](#) - one of our favorite places for a meal out. Hattaway's is run by Lindsay and Richard Hattaway, hailing from Georgia - and their menu reflects their Southern roots. They concoct Southern-inspired dishes from local ingredients, and there are so many delicious items to choose from. Additionally, they offer a phenomenal local wine list and craft cocktail program.

[Reservations are recommended.](#)

8:00 PM: Cap off the evening with something to snack on and a nightcap at [Passatempo Taverna](#). Their house-made focaccia is legendary in the Walla Walla Valley. If you're looking for dessert, ask what they have available that evening - there's no doubt it will be delicious. Reservations are recommended for the dining room, or you can look to grab a seat at the bar.

[Reservations are recommended.](#)



Listen to the Good Eats & Drinks playlist, curated by Jason and Todd, on Spotify as you wander. [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to start listening.





LAIID-BACK DAY OUT

Seven Hills Winery

Bobby Richards, Winemaker

There's nothing like kicking back and relaxing in wine country. This itinerary will take you on a leisurely tour of some of the best stops in and around downtown Walla Walla.

9:00 AM: Grab breakfast at [Bacon & Eggs](#) on Main Street! They have delicious food and breakfast cocktails, all of which is made from scratch. It is the perfect spot to start the day before tasting.

10:30 AM: After breakfast, enjoy a walk around [downtown Walla Walla](#) and the [Whitman College](#) campus. As you stroll through downtown, stop into some of my favorite shops. [Book & Game](#) is a great location to pick out a new book or grab a game or souvenir to take home. If you have pets like me, stop by [Wags to Whiskers](#) to get them a treat. If you need a little coffee pick me-up, [Carte Coffee](#) will have just what you need.

11:30 AM: After a leisurely morning, head out for your first tasting of the day at [The Walls Vineyards](#). Not far from downtown Walla Walla, The Walls atmosphere is great and depending on the weather, I recommend grabbing a seat on their patio. They focus on Rhône-style wines and have a wide variety to try.

[Reservations required for tasting.](#)

1:00 PM: Head to lunch at [AK's Mercado](#), where you'll find an extensive menu of smoked meats and tacos! Enjoy the best of both worlds with a few brisket tacos. All their tacos are served on house made tortillas that are out of this world.

2:30 PM: Next, go for a tasting at [Vital Wines](#), just around the corner from AK's Mercado. Vital Wines is a non-profit winery, and all proceeds go toward improving access to healthcare for vineyard and cellar workers locally. My wife, Maddie, is their Executive Director, and you can often find her in the tasting room as well. The wines are equally as good as the cause.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

4:00 PM: End your day of tasting with us at [Seven Hills Winery](#)! We are located in the historic Whitehouse-Crawford building, and it is the original working winery in downtown Walla Walla. We aim to create wines that showcase the distinctive terroir of the Walla Walla Valley.

[Reservations required for tasting.](#)



5:15 PM: For dinner, head right next door to [The Kinglet](#) - we share a building with them! The Kinglet is one of the newer restaurants to Walla Walla, and they are making some incredible food with an emphasis on local and seasonal ingredients.

[Reservations recommended.](#)

6:45 PM: After dinner, enjoy some of the best sweets the town has to offer. Pop into [Bright's Candies](#) for classic treats and fresh chocolates, or head to the [Pine Cone Creamery](#) if you want to try some unique, and traditional, ice cream flavors.

7:30 PM: If you want a nightcap, stop by [Public House 124](#) before calling it a night. They make incredible cocktails. I'd recommend the 124 Margarita or Fresh Thyme Smash.



Listen to the Laid-Back Day Out playlist, curated by Bobby, on Spotify as you wander. [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to start listening.



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Pictured - Sugar & Beaux - Bobby's dogs. Keep an eye out for them around town as you wander!





LITTLE & LOCAL GEMS

Echolands Winery

Doug Frost, Owner & CEO, and Taylor Oswald, Winemaker

Explore the smaller side of the Walla Walla Valley. This itinerary takes you to small businesses run by local entrepreneurs who are creating something special - whether its killer wines, unique menus or one-of-a kind atmospheres. Uncover these gems.

8:30 AM: Get the day started with breakfast, say, ordering something eponymous at [Bacon & Eggs](#). Doug is partial to the Chilaquiles, though he recommends a healthy dose of Crystal New Orleans Sauce or whichever medicine you prefer, because heat is a great way to wake up.

10:00 AM: Head out to the Southside Wine District of the Walla Walla Valley for a tasting at [Grosgrain Vineyards](#). Proprietors Matt and Kelly Austin have been true friends and mentors to us throughout the process of creating a winery. Kelly designed out tasting room; Matt shepherds us through our pet-nat dégorgement. Their wines rock.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

11:15 AM: Head to the Westside Wine District for some important winery stops. There's only so many hours in the day, so we recommend picking Foundry Vineyards or Gramercy Cellars to visit today, and checking out the other another day or on your next trip! Alternatively, skip a sit-down lunch and make a reservation at both of these amazing wineries.

Reserve a spot at [Foundry Vineyards](#). Of course, you should go for the low-intervention wines and their Pet Project label's pet-nat wines - you need to taste these. The Andersons, the owners of Foundry Vineyards, also founded the Walla Walla Foundry- a place where some of the world's most important art is created. Seriously. You have no idea. Ai Weiwei, Chuck Close, Kiki Smith, the list goes on and on. Go, see, taste and learn more at Foundry.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

For extraordinary wines, make a reservation at [Gramercy Cellars](#). Up the street from Foundry, they have helped mentor Echolands Winery throughout its relatively short life. Owner Greg Harrington and winemaker Brandon Moss have endeavored to keep us on the right track. Everything they make is recommended but John Lewis Syrah is just stupid good.

[Reservations required for tasting.](#)



12:30 PM: You should grab lunch at [The Green Lantern](#) (very recommended) but if you decide to try hit both Foundry and Gramercy today, opt for lunch on the go.

If your schedule is tight (we live like that), drop in to [Andy's Market](#) for a smoothie and keep going on your day of tasting! That will give you time to get an espresso fix at [Colville Street Patisserie](#) (a daily stop for us), and as you might imagine, their pastries are very, very good. Actually, they are remarkable.

(Note: Andy's Market is closed on Saturdays but [TMACS Epicurean Kitchen](#) can be found in the same building, and they have great meat & cheese grab-and-go options).

Don't worry - if you can't make the Green (Lantern) for lunch then you can drop in after dinner tonight for a couple drinks and listen to the winemakers complain about the weather and harvest. And the soccer scores.

2:00 PM: Visit [Hoquetus Wine Co.](#), one of the newest wineries located out in the Airport Wine District, after lunch. Robert Gomez is one of our friends, a serious musician and an even more serious winemaker creating unique wines.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

3:30 PM: You can cap off your day of tasting at our winery - [Echolands Winery!](#) Our tasting room in downtown Walla Walla is the perfect place to kick back after a day of tasting. Our winemaking program focuses on crafting responsibly produced wines that reflect the potential for elegant and balanced wines from a singular place - the Walla Walla Valley.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

5:00 PM: Kill a little time before dinner and check out [Earthlight Books](#) where Doug judges his purchases by weight (how much will fit in my check-in bags before I get flagged?). If you need a place to buy strange pulp paperbacks, as well as a kazillion other books too, this is the place to go. Really. Get lost in it - Doug seems to.

6:30 PM: Round out the day with dinner at [The Kinglet](#) - one of Walla Walla's newest restaurants. Ever changing, the Kinglet restaurant's menus reflect the best of the season and moment. We routinely dine with them and insist you do too. Please. Your mouth, nose and body will thank you.

[Reservations recommended.](#)



Listen to the Little & Local Gems playlist, curated by Doug and Taylor, on Spotify as you wander. [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to start listening.





SCENIC WALLA WALLA

Sleight of Hand Cellars

Trey Busch, Owner & Winemaker

When it comes to the Walla Walla Valley, there's many incredible sights to see. From the historic beauty of Downtown Walla Walla, to the natural splendor of surrounding landscapes and vineyards, this itinerary will take you to some of the most beautiful locations in the region.

6:00 AM: Start the day off with a visit to [Palouse Falls State Park](#). Just a one-hour drive from Walla Walla, Palouse Falls is a must see, especially for those with a knack for photography.

8:00 AM: Depart Palouse Falls to head back to town to get your day of wine tasting started.

9:00 AM: Grab breakfast at [Maple Counter Café](#). This popular breakfast spot is known for their big servings, so come with an appetite.

10:00 AM: Enjoy your first tasting of the day at [Elephant Seven Wine](#), located in downtown Walla Walla. Winemaker Josh West shares my love of music - their taste in wine and music are equally rad. I highly recommend stocking up on their Grenache - it is one of my favorites in the Walla Walla Valley.

[Reservations are required for tasting.](#)

11:30 AM: Next up: [Time & Direction Wines](#)! Winemaker Steve Wells is awesome, and he's making some killer wines in his tasting room, which is all things geeky and nerdy.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

12:30 PM: Pop by [Hot Poop](#) - the oldest independent record store in Washington State! This shop boasts a wide collection of vinyl and cd's, perfect for music lovers and collectors.

1:00 PM: Visit [AK's Mercado](#) for lunch - they offer Mexican-inspired dishes in a casual but lively atmosphere. They have a killer cocktail and beer program, and it's the perfect pit stop to break up a day of wine tasting. I recommend any taco on the menu.



2:15 PM: Next, join us at [Sleight of Hand Cellars](#) on the Southside of the Walla Walla Valley for a tasting. Our goal at Sleight of Hand is to make world class wines while having the most fun that is legally possible.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

3:30 PM: The hardest part of visiting the Walla Walla Valley is narrowing down what wineries to visit. I recommend either Dunham Cellars or Gifford Hirlinger for your final tasting spot of the day - your pick!

[Gifford Hirlinger](#), located just a short 5-minute drive from our tasting room, is a great stop if you're looking for a personal experience. Mike and Melissa Berghan, the owners, are some of my favorite people in Walla Walla and their wines are equally special.

[Dunham Cellars](#) is located in the Airport Wine District, about a 15-minute drive from Sleight of Hand. I got my start in the wine business at Dunham Cellars, and although they have grown, they are still very much the family-owned winery that I worked for.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

4:30 PM: Head back to your hotel for some rest or take a relaxing stroll around downtown. Or, if the weather is cooperating, and you're feeling up for a short, 30-minute drive, head up to [Pike's Peak](#) to watch the sunset. Note: 4-wheel drive is required!

6:30 PM: Grab some dinner at [TMACS](#)! Their bar program is incredible, and the food delights. Their romantic, but unstuffy atmosphere is perfect to cap off a great day in the Walla Walla Valley.

[Reservations recommended.](#)



Listen to the Scenic Walla Walla playlist, curated by Trey, on Spotify as you wander. [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to start listening.





A VETERAN'S GUIDE TO WALLA WALLA

Smoky Rose Cellars

Josh Roznowski, Winemaker & Owner

In the Walla Walla Valley, you'll find a handful of winemakers who's first career was serving our country. Explore the wines of some of these winemakers who are embarking on their next adventure, and enjoy much more that the region has to offer.

7:30 AM: Head out early and play 9-holes at [Veterans Memorial Golf Course](#). Located centrally to town with great views of wheat fields and the Blues, it's the perfect spot to start your day. *Tee time reservation recommended.*

9:30 AM: Enjoy a big breakfast at [Maple Counter Café](#). Maple Counter, owned by husband-and-wife Kory and Rachel, is a local favorite for delicious but laid-back breakfast. If they don't have it on the menu, it doesn't exist. The apple pancake is a must try but bring your appetite or a few friends to help you finish it!

11:00 AM: Head out to the Eastside Wine District of the Walla Walla Valley for a tasting at [ALUVE](#). JJ and Kelly Menozzi are owners and winemakers and were both pilots in the Air Force for more than 23 years. After their time in the Air Force, they moved to a vineyard in Walla Walla, and have been crafting amazing wines since. *Reservations required for tasting.*

12:30 PM: Join us at [Smoky Rose Cellars](#) for a tasting. Before breaking into the wine business, I was a meteorologist in the Air Force, and our CFO Amy (the most badass member of the Smoky Rose Team) is the 6th female Cobra Helicopter pilot in the history of the Marine Corps. Our winemaking is focused on crafting great wines that create long-lasting experiences and memories for everyone we meet. *Reservations required for tasting.*



1:45 PM: Get a bite to eat for lunch at one of two of our favorite spots in town. [Cuigini Italian Deli](#) is just around the corner from us and has some of the best paninis plus a ridiculous selection of charcuterie and cheeses if you're craving something light yet filling. Like all awesome places, their hours vary so if they're closed or too busy then [Yamas Greek Eatery](#) is the place to be! The menu at Yamas is authentically Greek, and it's the perfect light lunch between tastings. Pro tip: order the Alifes platter or the grilled octopus if it's on the menu.

3:00 PM: Head out to the Oregon side of the Walla Walla Valley for one final tasting. Winemaker and Owner, Roger Lemstrom, of [Los Rocosos Vineyards](#) served in the military, and is now making some unique and delicious wines. If you find yourself in Walla Walla on a weekday, visit him at his vineyard for a tasting. On the weekend, you will find him in his tasting room in downtown Milton-Freewater.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

5:00 PM: Relax for a bit before dinner and take a stroll around downtown Walla Walla. If you are still wanting to sip on some wine, head over to [The Thief Fine Wine & Beer](#) for a flight of either local or non-local selections. Need a cocktail and a snack? [TMACS](#) has a great happy hour!

6:00 PM: End the day with dinner at [Walla Walla Pasta Factory](#). They make wonderful and hearty Italian dishes at reasonable prices with a fabulous wine list.



Listen to the Veterans Guide playlist, curated by Josh, on Spotify as you wander. [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to start listening.

