

Win a Ticket to Tour de Vin!



Photo courtesy: The Wine & Food Foundation of Texas

There's nothing like a glass of wine to warm the mind, body, and soul. And the number of varietals and origins from around the world never ceases to amaze and inspire me. I wish I could take a "tour de vin", a wine tour, around the world and take you with me. But since it's not as simple as snapping my fingers and arriving on another continent, I have a more realistic offer. You, Dear Reader, must first read to the end of this post to find out how **you can have a chance to accompany me to Austin's own 6th annual Tour de Vin this Thursday evening.**

Sponsored by The Wine & Food Foundation of Texas, Whole Foods Market, and Marquee Event Group, the evening will be held under the stars at Whole Foods Market downtown and will feature wines from Europe and South America and internationally-inspired bites from 20 Central Texas culinary outlets and....excited yet? I know, me too, but first, a tribute to my favorite international wines and memories that remain on my taste buds from the wine glasses my lips have touched during worldly travels I am privileged to have experienced.

Spain- I'll never forget my first glass of Rioja, named after La Rioja, a northern province of España. It was on the first evening I arrived in Sevilla in a tiny bar/cafe, a great start to spending 5 months studying the beautiful and savory life and culture of the majestic European country. The wine was dry, with bold flavors, and hints of spice. To this day, it reminds me of my Spanish adventures.

Italy- I once had a dream to visit Cinque Terre in Italy, and my dream came true with my sister Allyson. The 5 (cinque) coastal towns (terre) mark one of the most picturesque scenes I have ever witnessed with my own eyes. The small fishing towns had colored houses lining the hills facing the water. As we hiked through vineyards to get to the next town, I felt a new appreciation for Italian

wines.

Portugal- My visit to this intriguing country remains near the top of my travel list. Beaches with rustic and misshapen rocks jutting from the ocean, and a visit to Cabo de Roca (the Cape of the Rock)- the most Western point on the European continent made me feel like I had made a stop at the edge of the Earth. Although I do not remember the taste of the wines while I was there, I recently wrote about a sangria recipe, which is made with my new favorite Portugese wine: _____.

This brings me to the challenge. The first person who can:

- Fill in the blank of the Portuguese wine referred to above AND spell it correctly AND
- Name the most recent wine bar I wrote about on TheRebeccammendations AND
- Is available on Thursday evening (October 7th) at 6:30 pm

can accompany me to The Wine & Food Foundation's Tour de Vin at Whole Foods Market downtown.

Respond in a comment to this post and I'll be in touch with you before the event!

Next time you indulge in a glass of wine, take a moment to find out where it's from, think about how it tastes, and wonder about the love and labor that was poured into that bottle you are drinking from. Cheers!