

DEPARTURES

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Wine on the High Seas with Celebrity Cruises

By Lesley McKenzie | Travel



Imbibing on the high seas was taken to a new level when Celebrity Cruises introduced its winemaker-hosted cruises in 2009 and, four years later, its brewmaster series. This year's 18-cruise lineup began in February, and an 11-night tour of the Eastern Mediterranean, featuring Napa Valley's Clos Pegase winery and its vintner Richard Sowalsky, set sail earlier this month. But there is plenty more in store.

Riffing on Celebrity's inaugural Great Wine Festival (*May 31; greatwinefestival.com*), held in Irvine, California, the 2014 California Wine Festival at Sea (*November 1–8; 888-609-1178*)—a venture through the Eastern Caribbean aboard the *Celebrity Reflection*—brings the popular vinous event to the water, highlighting numerous Golden State wineries, two private tasting seminars, an exclusive four-course wine-paired lunch and a sommelier-led tour of the ship's two-story glass wine tower created by renowned designer Adam Tihany. (Ports of call include St. Maarten, St. Thomas and San Juan, Puerto Rico.)

The adventures continue through the fall and winter. Grgich Hills Estate, based in Rutherford, California, highlights a 15-night journey along the Panama Canal (*November 4–19; 877-849-2730*) and a 12-night venture through Australia and New Zealand brings aboard Oregon's Ponzi Vineyards, Argyle Winery and Roco Winery (*January 27–February 8, 2015; 800-367-5348*). We'll toast to that. celebritycruises.com.