

## East Valley Tour

By Dixie Huey

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The wineries in this portion of our tour are located east of Interstate 5 between Oregon City to the north and the Salem and Stayton areas to the south. It is home to about 15 lesser-known wineries, so there is less tasting-room traffic and potentially a more relaxed setting in which to explore wine country this Memorial Day.

If you have children and want to combine your wine tour with outdoor activities, this may be the perfect answer.

There are a number of great attractions in this part of the Willamette Valley, including the Oregon Garden, Silverton Falls State Park, Mount Angel Abbey, and Gallon House Bridge, Oregon's oldest covered bridge.

Located in Silverton, the Oregon Garden is a stunning public botanical display with 20 different specialty gardens. There are waterfalls, fountains, a 400 year-old oak and even a Children's Garden featuring a "Dinosaur Dig" and Hobbit land.

If you're looking for lodging in the area, try the new Oregon Garden Resort, which features a restaurant and lounge with views of the Garden, as well as a spa and seasonal heated outdoor pool.

Silverton Falls State Park is another great spot in the East Valley. This temperate rain forest in the Cascade Mountains sports seven miles of canyon trails with 10 waterfalls. There are a variety of hikes of different lengths, which will please those looking to work up a serious sweat, as well as the hiker who desires a more peaceful, relaxing trail. There are an additional 25 miles of multi-use trails that welcome cyclists and equestrians, and a variety of overnight options, including campsites, cabins and a lodge.

### Four to try

Piluso Vineyard and Winery:  
6654 Shaw Highway SE,  
Aumsville. Open noon to 5 p.m.  
May 23-25. Contact: (503)  
749-4125.

Silver Falls Vineyards: 4972  
Cascade Highway SE, Sublimity.  
Open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. May  
23-25. Contact: (503) 769-5056.

St. Josef's Winery: 28836 S.  
Barlow Road, Canby. Open 11  
a.m. to 5 p.m., May 23-25.  
Contact: (503) 651-3190.

Vitis Ridge Winery: 6685  
Meridian Road NE, Silverton.  
Open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. May  
23-25. Contact: (503) 873-9800.