



*Join The Family.*

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## Messina Hof Winery and Resort Announces 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Festival

*Texas vineyard offers five weekends of picking, stomping and  
celebrating the "fruit of the vine"*

**HOUSTON** (June 11, 2007) – Messina Hof, the fastest growing award winning winery and resort in Texas, is celebrating the winery's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with its annual Harvest Festival from July 20 – August 19, 2007, with expected attendance to exceed 2,000.

Harvest will capture the excitement and fun in getting the wine making season off to a stomping start! Wine lovers, including special guests and local celebrities, will hike up their pants and partake in the first steps of wine-making with the Messina Hof family by helping pick and stomp the grapes. Not only will they get their feet wet, they will also be wined and dined with a Harvest cuisine prepared by Executive Chef Ken Ruud and his culinary team at The Vintage House restaurant.

"The response we have received for this year's Harvest has been phenomenal," according to Paul and Merrill Bonarrigo, co-founders of Messina Hof Winery. "The vines have never looked more beautiful and fruitful. We couldn't ask for more for our 30<sup>th</sup> year in operation."

Messina Hof Winery marks its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the first ever Moonlit Harvest -- an enchanted evening not to be forgotten. The romantic, quaint evening will include picking grapes from the beautiful vineyards, stomping them under a beautiful sunset, and an exquisite Mediterranean Vineyard Cuisine feast. Guests will also receive a Messina Hof Harvest souvenir t-shirt to imprint with their purple feet after stomping.

Harvest is an exhilarating five-week event featuring a wide variety of food and wine events to choose from, including the Moonlit Harvest, Food and Wine Pairing Seminars, Vineyard Cuisine luncheons, Harvest Murder Mystery Dinners, and the Harvest Vintner Dinners.

Following is the schedule of Harvest events in chronological order:

### **Blessing of the Vines**

Father John Malinowski of St. Joseph's in Bryan will perform the annual ritual of the blessing of the vines at Messina Hof Winery. The date is still to be determined.

### **Moonlit Harvest**

**Friday, July 20, 2007**

The first annual "Moonlit Harvest" includes picking and stomping the grapes, a souvenir t-shirt, and a Vineyard Cuisine dinner prepared by The Vintage House's Executive Chef Ken Ruud.

### **Harvest**

**Saturday, July 21, 2007 – Sunday, August 19, 2007 (Saturday and Sunday only)**

Join the Messina Hof family for the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Festival. Choose from four package options that include orientation, picking & stomping grapes, a souvenir t-shirt, food & wine pairing seminars, and a Vineyard Cuisine lunch and/or dinner specially cooked by The Vintage House's Executive Chef Ken Ruud. To review the Harvest Festival available packages, please visit

[http://www.messinahof.com/docs/MH %20Harvest Reg Form 07.pdf](http://www.messinahof.com/docs/MH%20Harvest%20Reg%20Form%2007.pdf).

### **Murder Mystery Dinners**

**Saturday, July 21, 2007 – Saturday, August 18, 2007  
(All Murder Mystery Dinner's begin at 6:30 PM)**

Mystery Dinner theme's are as follows:

July 21 - "Celebrity Celebrations"  
July 28 - "One of the Girls"  
August 4 - "Murder on the Mound"  
August 11 - "Luck of the Irish"  
August 17 - "Storm Survivors"

### **Harvest Vintner's Dinners**

**Friday, July 27, 2007 – Saturday, August 18, 2007  
(All Vintner Dinner's begin at 6:30 PM)**

Harvest Vintner's Dinner's are as follows:

July 27 – Kendall Jackson Reserve Dinner  
August 3 – Palm Bay Imports  
August 10 – Franciscan  
August 18 – Grand Finale, "The French Connection"

In partnership with Kroger Food Stores, Messina Hof Winery will collect canned food for the opportunity to win tickets to attend the 2007 Harvest. All canned food items will be donated to the Houston Food Bank.

Sponsors for the 2007 Annual Harvest include: The Houston Chronicle, Bryan/College Station Convention and Visitors Bureau, Life in the Brazos.com, Coufal-Prater Equipment, Monterey Mushroom, Clear Channel Communications, Wells Fargo, George Bush Library, Tops Printing, and the Bryan/College Station Eagle Newspaper.

The cost for Harvest events varies from \$19.95 to \$125. Groups with a minimum of 20 people can receive a discount of \$10 off per person for either the full-day package or for the dinners.

Messina Hof Winery is located at 4545 Old Reliance Rd. in Bryan, TX 77808.

For more information or to register to be a part of this unforgettable experience, please call (800) 736-9463 ext. 34 for reservations or visit [www.MessinaHof.com](http://www.MessinaHof.com).

### **About Messina Hof Winery and Resort**

Messina Hof Winery and Resort was established in 1977 by Co-Founders Paul and Merrill Bonarrigo. Now celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Messina Hof was founded on family values, romance and tradition. Messina Hof is the leader in the establishment of the Texas wine industry and ranks as one of the fastest growing, most award-winning wineries in the state.

More than 50 wines are produced at the winery located in Bryan, Texas. Messina Hof Winery and Resort also boast on their 100-acre property the Vintage House Restaurant and Villa, which was voted "Most Romantic hideaway in the USA".

For more information on Messina Hof Winery and Resort, please visit [www.MessinaHof.com](http://www.MessinaHof.com)