

SOURCE: Volcano Wine Company

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Volcano Wine Company Opens in Downtown Bend, Oregon

Bend, Oregon, 22 May 2006 – The Volcano Wine Company Tasting Room has recently opened in downtown Bend, Oregon at 930 NW Brooks Street. They will feature the wines of Bend based Volcano Vineyards whose 2003 Syrah was just awarded a silver medal at the West Coast Wine Competition. Co-owners Scott and Liz Ratcliff are celebrating, as the opening culminates a business venture that started over three years ago when they first contracted to buy grapes for their 2003 vintage wines.

Scott and Liz will be pouring other small, artisan producers not usually available in the Central Oregon area. "Of course, we want to offer something different, and perhaps even a bit unusual," explains Scott. "We've gotten to know other small volume producers who are excited to share their wines with the Central Oregon market. We can share their stories and showcase the heart and soul that went into each bottle."

The Ratcliffs hope to appeal to both the new wine drinker and the collector. "We write our own tasting notes," said Liz, "keeping them fun and simple. And we always include food pairing ideas."

Parents of two children under the age of 5, the Ratcliffs have made sure the Volcano Wine Company Tasting Room is kid friendly. "Our OLCC license allows for minors when they are with a parent," Liz said. "We have seating for children and lots of toys to keep them occupied while their folks enjoy our tasting room experience."

The atmosphere of the tasting room is rustic and cozy. The bar top was hand made by a Bend craftsman from a vintage redwood wine tank and it rests on retired French oak barrels. Additional features include an intricately stained, patterned hardwood floor, exposed brick walls, and Riedel stemware for the tastings.

The ambiance of the Volcano Wine Company Tasting Room is enhanced by the paintings of Bend artist Katherine Taylor. Liz feels fortunate to have Katherine's oils hanging in the Volcano Wine Company Tasting Room. "Katherine has such a gift with shadows and light. Her work is evocative – she catches a moment in such a way that you experience it with all your senses – a perfect complement to the space."

The Volcano Wine Company Tasting Room is located at 930 NW Brooks Street between The Pine Tavern and The Mirror Pond Gallery in downtown Bend, Oregon. They feature the wines of Volcano Vineyards and other artisan producers by the taste, flight, glass as well as bottle and case sales. The Volcano Wine Company Tasting Room is open Tuesday through Saturday and is available for special events. Please call 541.617.1102 for more information.