

Chaîne des Rôtisseurs

Bailliage des États-Unis

invites you to the

2026 Société Mondiale du Vin Event

&

Jeunes Sommeliers Competition Finals

May 3rd – 6th, 2026

Del Lago Resort & Casino, Waterloo, New York



NATIONAL MONDIALE EVENT 2026

Sunday, May 3rd – Wednesday, May 6th

Dear Fellow Chaîne members and guests,

I am delighted to welcome you to the wonderful Finger Lakes region! We are very excited to be able to congregate and share Chaîne camaraderie for a Mondiale event and program again. In addition to an itinerary full of memorable wine and food experiences, we will once again celebrate the talents and commitments of sommelier finalists from around the US in the Jeunes Sommeliers Competition.

In the spirit of the Chaîne and Mondiale, many of our winery visits will be hosted by winemakers, vintners, and owners, heightening the experience, enjoyment, and education that you will receive. Being the first time we have held our Mondiale program in the Finger Lakes region, we are making sure to expose you to some of the best small, handcrafted wineries and restaurants that are producing world-class wine and food. Riesling is the most prominent grape variety here and the examples that are being produced rival some of the finest Rieslings in the world of wine.

In keeping with one of the most important missions of the Mondiale of providing an emphasis on education, we are offering wonderful seminars/tastings featuring some of the finest winemakers and vintners in the region. With these seminars along with the 4 wine themed wine country tours, Taste of the Finger Lakes event, dine arounds and gala dinners, it is my goal to ensure you experience what makes the Finger Lakes a compelling and emerging wine and food region.

This Mondiale Weekend is truly about the best of the best and we are excited that you are joining us in celebrating with your fellow Chaîne members and some of the most dedicated Jeunes Sommeliers in the United States.

We hope you have an amazing time and further fuel your passion for the Chaîne and Mondiale.

Vive la Chaîne! Vive la Société!



George Staikos

Grand Echanson des États-Unis

NATIONAL MONDIALE EVENT 2026

Sunday, May 3rd – Wednesday, May 6th



Del Lago Resort & Casino

Experience Extraordinary! Wherever you're coming from, however long you plan to stay, there's only one destination in the Finger Lakes region that gives you everything you expect and then some. As their name implies, they are "of the lake." While they are primarily a world-class resort and casino, their larger goal is to serve as a gateway to the Finger Lakes, inspiring tourism and growth throughout the region. Chaîne members are in for a delightful stay at an excellent rate.

Del Lago Resort & Casino
1133 NY-414
Waterloo, NY 13165

To lock in the Chaîne rate,
please call (855) del-Lago
& mention the code word:

"National Mondiale 2026"

NATIONAL MONDIALE EVENT 2026

Sunday, May 3rd – Wednesday, May 6th

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, MAY 3RD

Suggested Local Activities:

- Corning
- Watkins Glen
- Waterloo Boat Tour
- Dine-Arounds in the Evening

MONDAY, MAY 4TH

- **9:00am - 4:00pm** - Wine Tour and Lunches
- **9:30am - 2:30pm** - Skaneateles Day Trip & Lunch
- **6:30pm** - Welcome Night

TUESDAY, MAY 5TH

- **9:30am - 3:00pm** - Wine Tour and Lunches
- **3:30pm** - Jeunes Sommeliers Final Competition at Del Lago
- **6:30pm** - Mondiale Induction and Gala Dinner at Knapp Winery

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6TH

- **9:00am** - Echanson Workshop at Del Lago Resort led by Grand Echanson, George Staikos
- **10:00am** - Kevin Zrally Seminar, "Cab Franc Forward" at Del Lago Resort
- **11:00am** - Panel Discussion: Sparkling Innovation in the FLX
- **12:30-3:00pm** - Tastes of the Finger Lakes at Del Lago Resort
- **6:00pm** - FLX Celebration Dinner at the Lake House on Canandaigua

SUGGESTED LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Corning, NY

Distance from Del Lago: ~70mi / ~90min

DESCRIPTION: The city of Corning, NY has a ton of fun things to do! You can shop in their downtown Gaffer District where you can find independently owned local shops, cafes, restaurants, and places to grab your favorite local beverage. Corning is also home to the world-famous Corning Museum of Glass. You can check out the largest comprehensive glass collection spanning over 3,500 years of history and now with their newly expanded Glass Studio you can now take different glass-making classes!



Watkins Glen, NY

Distance from Del Lago: ~45mi / ~60min

DESCRIPTION: Watkins Glen State Park is the most famous of the Finger Lakes State Parks, with a reputation for leaving visitors spellbound. Within two miles, the glen's stream descends 400 feet past 200-foot cliffs, generating 19 waterfalls along its course. The gorge path winds over and under waterfalls and through the spray of Cavern Cascade. Rim trails overlook the gorge. Watkins Glen also has a small downtown area with shops and eateries to enjoy!



Waterloo Boat Tour

Distance from Del Lago: ~11mi / ~20min

DESCRIPTION: Finger Lakes Water Adventures has been in operation in Waterloo, NY for years. Hop on a pontoon-style boat for a relaxing cruise along the Cayuga-Seneca Canal while being narrated by a knowledgeable captain along the way. The cruises all depart from Stivers Seneca Marine, 401 Boody's Hill Road.



CHAÎNE DINE-AROUNDS

Sunday, May 3rd

Edgar's at Belhurst Castle || 14 members, **\$195pp**

TIME: 6:30pm

LOCATION: 4069 W Lake Rd, Geneva, NY 14456

DESCRIPTION: Edgar's Restaurant in the Castle is nestled inside historic 1880's Belhurst Castle on the shores of Seneca Lake. Soak in the history of the Castle and enjoy a dinner like no other complete with mouth-watering flavors and experiences. The dinner consists of 4 seasonally inspired courses perfectly paired with 4 Belhurst Estate Winery Wines. You'll be guided through the history of the castle as well as wine making here in the Finger Lakes.

Transportation on your own.



F.L.X. Table || 14 members, **\$200pp**

TIME: 5:45pm

LOCATION: 22 Linden St, Geneva, NY 14456

DESCRIPTION: Named Best New Restaurant in the country by USA Today in 2017, F.L.X. Table is one of the Finger Lakes premier dining experiences. With a very intimate setting and no boundary between the guests and the kitchen, dining here is unique and interactive.

Transportation on your own.



Portico by Fabio Viviani || 16 members, **\$250pp**

TIME: 6:00pm

LOCATION: Del Lago Resort & Casino

DESCRIPTION: Portico by Fabio Viviani, where old-world Italian cooking is mingled with steakhouse-style chops and seafood. Each dish is meticulously prepared by skilled chefs, highlighting a dedication to culinary excellence.



NATIONAL MONDIALE EVENT 2026

Sunday, May 3rd – Wednesday, May 6th

ABOUT THE WINE GROWING OUR MEMBERS WILL GET TO EXPERIENCE

About Seneca Lake winegrowing:

The primary difference in growing conditions between the east and west sides of Seneca Lake is the amount of afternoon sun and heat retention, with the east side being significantly warmer due to its west-facing slopes. The east side, particularly the southeastern shores, is locally nicknamed the “banana belt” because it is the warmest microclimate in the region.

The west side of Seneca Lake is a bit cooler and more moderate with different conditions that favor other grape varieties and wine styles. The vineyards on the west side are generally planted on east-facing slopes, receiving sunlight earlier in the day. They lose the intense afternoon sun sooner than the east side, leading to overall cooler growing conditions compared to the “banana belt”.

About Cayuga Lake winegrowing:

It is a special region for winegrowing due to a combination of its large, deep body of water, unique topography, and specific soil conditions that create a beneficial microclimate for grape cultivation. It was the first individual lake in the Finger Lakes to be granted American Viticultural Area (AVA) status in 1988.

Cayuga Lake's most significant factor is the lake's ability to moderate air temperatures. At 40 miles long and over 400 feet deep, the large volume of water absorbs heat during the summer and releases it slowly in the fall and winter. This moderation protects the vines from damaging late-spring frosts and early-autumn freezes, effectively extending the growing season by up to three weeks compared to surrounding areas further inland. This allows grapes to fully ripen while retaining essential acidity.

WINE TOURS & LUNCHESES

Monday, May 4th || 9am ~ 4pm

West Seneca Lake Tour

20 members, \$225pp

About Dr. Frank Winery:

This Keuka Lake winery probably needs no introduction with FLX wines! It is a classic part of any FLX wine tour. The tasting room offers a delightful experience, with very knowledgeable guides, a wide assortment of wines and a close look at the important history of vinifera wine-making in the FLX. Dr. Frank estate vineyards on Keuka Lake represent the oldest Riesling, Chardonnay, and Pinot Noir vines in the Eastern United States. They are known for producing highly acclaimed traditional method sparkling wines, crisp and aromatic white wines, and rich red wines.

About Fox Run Vineyards:

In 1994, Scott Osborn and his first business partner, Andy Hale, purchased the winery. Now with 50 acres of east-facing vineyards on glacial soils, the winery produces a remarkable range of limited-production, estate wines. The winemaking team aims to achieve full creative expression within each variety of grape, giving Fox Run an abundance of delicious and refreshing wines.

About Red Tail Ridge Winery:

California comes to New York! Nancy Irelan and Mike Schnelle came to the FLX Region from Gallo in California. Seeing the incredible potential of growing non-traditional varieties here in the FLX, they debuted Teroldego, one of the rarest grapes in the world, with 90% of it still grown right around it's hometown of Trentino in the Alto Adige in the mountains of Italy. Our expression of Teroldego is uniquely Finger Lakes., and others, built a LEED certified winery, and have taken the FLX world by storm, while working well with their neighbors who have all become a thriving community.

WINE TOURS & LUNCHESES

Monday, May 4th || 9am ~ 4pm

Southeast Seneca Lake Tour

20 members, **\$245pp**

About Forge Wine Cellars:

France comes to the FLX! Rick Rainey convinced Louis Barroul (Chateau St. Cosme) to invest in the FLX area, and Forge was born. They highlight specific vineyard sites and soils with their Rieslings and Pinot Noirs and have expanded to bring in a "Chablis style" Chardonnay from a truly historic vinifera vineyard that Gold Seal planted in the 1970s.

About Silver Thread Vineyards:

Located adjacent to the historic Gold Seal vineyard, Silver Thread is doing great things with Riesling and more, all while growing organically - probably the very first to do so successfully in the FLX. They have taken over the space built by Karen Gilman and Dano Hutnik over 20 years ago and are offering wine tastings and Austrian style food to highlight the wines of the FLX.

About Lamoreaux Landing Wine Cellars:

History and then some! The Wagners have been farming and growing grapes for decades. Mark Wagner founded Lamoreaux Landing in 1990, and offers not only beautiful wines, but one of the most stunning winery buildings in the FLX. Their architect designed building combines the historic Greek Revival style so prevalent in the area with a functional working winery and tasting room. The tasting experience is delightful.



WINE TOURS & LUNCHES

Monday, May 4th || 9:30am ~ 2:30pm

A large, illuminated oval sign with the text "Mirbeau Inn" in a dark, cursive font. The sign is mounted on a wooden structure with thick, dark wooden posts. The background shows a building and trees.

Mirbeau
Inn

Skaneateles Day Trip & Lunch

28 members, \$180pp

Members will depart from the Del Lago Resort for a ride over to Skaneateles, New York, one of the most picturesque towns in the Finger Lakes Region! Located right at the top of Skaneateles Lake, one of the jewels of the Finger Lakes. Members will have time to explore the local shops, scenic lake views, and get a real essence of an Upstate New York lake village. Then members will be dropped off at Mirbeau Inn for lunch with their Bistro and Wine Bar.





WELCOME RECEPTION & DINNER

Monday, May 4th || 6:30pm || Del Lago

6:30pm-8:30pm 2026 Mondiale Welcome Night || \$200pp

Join us to kick off the 2026 National Mondiale Event with a Welcome Night at the Del Lago Resort and Casino! Join your Chaîne friends in toasting the latest Jeunes Sommeliers Competitors and enjoy a casual evening with an assortment of hors-d'oeuvres and food stations to try. There will also be some featured Finger Lakes Region wine for members to enjoy! Casual dress.



WINE TOURS & LUNCHESES

Tuesday, May 5th || 9:30am ~ 3pm

Cayuga Lake Tour

20 members, \$225pp

About Knapp Winery:

The first winery on Cayuga Lake, founded by Doug and Suzy Knapp. Now owned by Rochester Chaîne Members Cole and Karen Wilson. Tradition and innovation are truly at the core of what we do at Knapp. Knapp Winery planted some of the first vinifera grapes along the shores of Cayuga Lake and is the very first winery in the Finger Lakes Appellation to plant and vinify the grape variety Cabernet Franc. With winemaker Vanessa Hoffman in the cellar and Jimmer Bond in the vineyard, they have refined and focused the wines very quickly, to rave reviews. Today, Knapp Winery's dedicated staff offers premium reds such as Cabernet Franc, Saperavi, and Blaufränkisch, alongside whites such as signature Rieslings and Chardonnay. Their location will offer the opportunity for a guided walk in the vineyards, followed by a tasting with the winemaker.

About Cayuga Shoreline Restaurant:

Located right on Cayuga Lake, this restaurant offers just what everyone wants when they tour FLX wineries. A stunning view, right on the water, elegant food, and super service. With over 300 feet of lake frontage, guests are guaranteed a beautiful lakeside backdrop no matter what calls them over to the Shoreline.

About Hosmer Winery:

50 years of farming grapes on Cayuga Lake, Hosmer Winery is home to Patrician Verona Vineyard, established in 1972. It comprises nearly 70 acres of grapes that provide Hosmer Winery with the fruit to remain a fully functioning estate winery in the heart of the Finger Lakes. With silt loam soils, shale bedrock, and Easterly sloping land that matches near-maximum lake width and depth, Patrician Verona is ideally situated within the Finger Lakes Region to produce premium wine grapes. Grape varieties planted include Pinot Noir, Cabernet Franc, Lemberger, Merlot, Pinot Gris, Chardonnay, Riesling, and Sauvignon Blanc, among several other natives and hybrids. By preserving and building the soil that the grapes are grown on, and exploring new ways to reduce environmental impacts, the vines can inhabit a site less altered by modern agricultural inputs. The wines therefore portray a truer reflection of the Patrician Verona Vineyard site. The legacy continues with the founders' son and his wife now taking over the winery and vineyard.



WINE TOURS & LUNCHESES

Tuesday, May 5th || 9:30am ~ 3pm

East Seneca Lake Tour

20 members, \$225pp

About Damiani Wine Cellars:

Founded by long-time friends Lou Damiani and Phil Davis, the winery operates under the maxim "premium without pretense".

Damiani is known for their Cabernet franc, cabernet sauvignon, merlot, pinot noir. The sweeping western-facing slope of Damiani Vineyard captures brilliant sunlight and warmth throughout the year, creating wines of depth and maturity. While canopy management is strictly followed, the vineyard floor is left uninterrupted, driving the roots of the vines deep into the earth, gathering and sending valuable nutrients to the grapes.

About Hector Wine Company:

In 2010, Hector Wine Company was founded by 7th generation viticulturist, Jason Hazlitt, and veteran Finger Lakes winemaker, Justin Boyette. The idea was to allow for a more stable and focused vision for Sawmill Creek Vineyards, Jason's family vineyard and to make wines that were representative of the southeast side of Seneca Lake. Today, Hector is known for its idyllic location and their production of expressive reds and aromatic whites.

About Boundary Breaks Vineyard:

Boundary Break's focus is producing world-class Riesling in a range of styles, from bone-dry to semi-sweet and even traditional ice wine. Their #239 Dry Riesling was named one of the Top 100 Wines in the World by Wine Enthusiast Magazine on two occasions. In addition to Riesling, Boundary Breaks also grows and produces other cool-climate varieties well-suited to the region, including Gewürztraminer, Cabernet Franc, and a red blend called "The Harmonic" (a Bordeaux-style blend of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon).

Hector Wine
Company

2026 JEUNES SOMMELIERS FINAL COMPETITION

Tuesday, May 5th || 3:30pm ~ 5:00pm



2026 Jeunes Sommeliers Final Competition at Del Lago

You will witness high drama from the country's three best young sommeliers. We will gather to announce the three finalists in our 2026 Jeunes Sommeliers Competition. The ever-popular Final Competition will pit the best three Jeunes Sommeliers in the country against a rapid-fire knowledge exam, blind tasting and other pressure-filled service skills to determine the US champion. Attendees will blind taste the same wines at the same time as they are being sampled by the competitors.

Resort wear with Ribbons || **\$95pp**

NATIONAL MONDIALE INDUCTION GALA DINNER

Tuesday, May 5th || 6:30pm || Knapp Winery

6:30pm

Mondiale Induction Gala Dinner at Knapp Winery

Join the Young Sommeliers Competitors and your fellow Chaîne friends as we announce the winner of our National Jeunes Sommeliers Competition! Dinner will be held at Knapp Winery on their enclosed terrace. Knapp Winery is now owned and operated by Rochester Chaîne Members Cole and Karen Wilson. Enjoy a multi-course meal with special wine pairings from Knapp. Spend your evening enjoying delicious food and wine as we celebrate the Young Sommeliers and their accomplishments.

Transportation included to and from the Del Lago Resort

Formal with Ribbons || \$325pp

SEMINARS

Wednesday, May 6th

09:00am-10:00am Echanson Workshop at Del Lago Resort

Grand Echanson, George Staikos, will lead a workshop that will cover Mondiale ideas and provide tips and resources to assist you and your bailliage in your journey of offering compelling events. This training session is no charge and is exclusive to Echansons, Baillis, and BP's.

Seminars

10:00am-11:00am "Cab Franc Forward" Seminar with Kevin Zraly at Del Lago Resort || 30 Members, \$150pp

Kevin Zraly is an American wine educator and the founder of the Windows on the World Wine School, who has been described as America's most famous and entertaining wine teacher. Join Kevin during his seminar where he talks about Cabernet Franc.

11:00am-12:00pm Panel discussion: Sparkling Innovation in the FLX at Del Lago || 30 Members, \$125pp

Moderated by Amy Navor of the Finger Lakes Wine Alliance. Enjoy as 4 panelists representing different areas of the Finger Lakes talk about the future of sparkling wine in their wine region.

12:30pm-03:00pm Tastes of the Finger Lakes at Del Lago Resort || \$150pp

Walkaround style tasting at the Del Lago Resort where you will have the opportunity to taste select wines from 12 of some of the Finger Lake's top producers. Each winery will bring their signature wines and some surprises as well. It is your opportunity to interact directly with the wineries and winemakers and learn what makes them so unique. A casual lunch will be served as you graze at your own pace.

FINGER LAKES CELEBRATION DINNER

Wednesday, May 6th || 6:00pm || The Lake House

6:00pm **Finger Lakes Celebration Dinner at The Lake House || \$310pp**

LOCATION: The Lake House on Canandaigua

Located in the heart of New York's scenic Finger Lakes region, The Lake House on Canandaigua is one of the most top-rated Inns in the country. Lovingly conceived and created by a family of dreamers and doers, the property is a combination of nostalgic familiarity and modern design sensibilities, paying particular attention to sustainability. Our dinner will be in their featured Event Barn situated right on the water with stunning views. This multi course dinner will be paired with Finger Lakes wines.

Transportation is included. Semi-Formal Dress with Chaîne Ribbons.





*Thank you
to all our Sponsors:*



Piro.

