Wine on the Terrace Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the suggested attire?
A. Garden party to dressy casual. The walking surfaces will be a combination of sidewalk, tile, crushed limestone, and grass. (The food tent will be located on the lawn with tables set on the crushed limestone drive.)

Q. What about wearing perfume and cologne?
A. Although the Ellwood House wine tasting is a laid-back event, we recommend not wearing perfumes or colognes. They can impact the senses and those of others near you.

Q. What size is a typical pour?
A. A typical pour is 1.5 oz. You may feel free to sample and spit the wine or simply drink it. We have plenty of food available, so the event is designed to drink your samples and enjoy the food.

Q. Will I leave the event hungry?
A. Hy-Vee will be prepared with many varieties of things to eat. They work with us on a custom menu that is sure to please. Our goal is for everyone to have a full stomach and enjoy trying a range of new wines. The Visitor Center will be open until 7 pm with desserts and coffee.

Q. What time should I/we arrive?
A. The event is run as an open house, with admittance anytime between 4 pm and 7pm. We recommend arriving by 5:30 pm to get the most value from your ticket. The first floor of the mansion will be open for touring from 4 pm until 6 pm.

Q. What if it rains?
A. We have a back-up plan that includes using both levels of the Visitor Center, including the exhibit galleries.

Q. Are bottles of wine available to purchase?
A. John McIntyre, Wine & Spirits Manager of Hy-Vee, will assist you in filling out order sheets provided within the event program. There is no pressure to buy anything beyond your admission ticket, but if you sample a wine that you want to add to your personal cellar, simply fill out the order form. Ellwood House will get 5% of any wine sales.

Q. How does the silent auction work?
A. You may sign up for a bid number by listing your name and telephone number. Once you have your unique bid number, you may bid on the silent auction items.