



# VERDE VALLEY Wine Festival

Historic Clarkdale, Arizona

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Four Eight Wineworks and The Clarkdale Foundation Present 2018 Verde Valley Wine Festival

*Northern Arizona's only winemaking incubator and Clarkdale nonprofit organization open application process for local food vendors, media sponsors, and volunteers for May 12, 2018*

Clarkdale, Ariz. December 12, 2017 – [Four Eight Wineworks](#) and [The Clarkdale Foundation](#) have announced the date for the 2018 [Verde Valley Wine Festival](#), Northern Arizona's premier wine and culinary event. The Festival returns to downtown Clarkdale's Town Park on Saturday, May 12, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets for the popular event will go on sale to the public on Monday, January 1, 2018. Four Eight Wineworks and The Clarkdale Foundation are opening the call for local fine food vendors and event sponsors, as well as volunteers who live in the Verde Valley to help run the event.

Last year's Verde Valley Wine Festival showcased the locally-sourced wine of more than 20 winemakers from the Verde Valley and other regions of Arizona, local beer breweries and distilleries, and 20 local specialty food vendors. More than 2,000 attendees from around Arizona gathered at Clarkdale Town Park for wine and beer tastings, food, live music and more. A portion of the proceeds from the event will benefit The Clarkdale Foundation's philanthropic programs and the [Arizona Vignerons Alliance](#).

"Now in its third year, the Verde Valley Wine Festival highlights the community of Clarkdale and the Verde Valley at large, offering the finest of Northern Arizona's growing ecosystem of wineries, breweries, spirits and restaurants," explained David Baird, director of the Verde Valley Wine Festival and tasting room manager at Four Eight Wineworks. "We're committed to creating homegrown products for locals and visitors to enjoy, and we expect the 2018 Festival to be even bigger than last year, with more choices and experiences."

Restaurants, breweries, distilleries, and fine food purveyors are encouraged to apply to secure a space at the event immediately, as they are limited and on a

first come, first serve basis. Applications for wineries and wine vendors are now closed. The full lineup of wineries, restaurants, breweries, and food vendors will be announced on February 20, 2018.

The Verde Valley Wine Festival is also accepting applications for event sponsors, including media sponsors. There are several tiers of sponsorship participation that can meet the budget needs of local businesses who want to raise their profile within the community.

“The Clarkdale Foundation is proud to partner with Four Eight Wineworks in bringing this festival back for another successful year. We’re looking forward to using a portion of the proceeds from the event to further our philanthropic support programs in Clarkdale,” said Nick Hunseder, president of the Board of Directors at The Clarkdale Foundation. “The wine industry is quickly becoming an important economic and cultural part of the Verde Valley, and this is an opportunity for the public to get to know the winemakers who live and work in their local communities.”

In addition to choosing the date for the festival and opening up vendor and sponsorship applications, the organizers of the Festival are issuing a call for local volunteers to assist with the various functions of running the event. This includes tasks such as taking tickets at the entry gates, handling VIP guest check-ins, setup and break-down of exhibits, and other Festival operations.

For more information about sponsorship, volunteering, or applying as a food or beer vendor, send an email to David Baird at [David@VVWF.com](mailto:David@VVWF.com).

### **About Four Eight Wineworks**

Four Eight Wineworks is Northern Arizona’s only winemaking incubator, providing access to the tools emerging viticulturists need to become full-fledged winemakers. Successful participants of the Four Eight cooperative program include [Chateau Tumbleweed](#), and [The Oddity Wine Collective](#). Founded in 2013, Four Eight Wineworks intends to keep vintner talent in Arizona by providing the resources needed for high quality production. Visit the Four Eight Wineworks tasting room in Downtown Clarkdale, Arizona at 907 Main Street, or online at [www.four8wineworks.com](http://www.four8wineworks.com).

### **About The Clarkdale Foundation**

Founded in 1998, The Clarkdale Foundation is a 501-c-3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to enhance the community of Clarkdale, Arizona through

philanthropic endeavors. For nearly 20 years, the Foundation has remained committed to creating an endowment as a legacy for future Clarkdale generations, support the enhancement of community facilities and providing financial assistance for the arts, education and cultural activities. For more information, visit <http://clarkdalefoundation.org/>.

**About Arizona Vignerons Alliance:**

Arizona Vignerons Alliance (AZVA) works to ensure quality and authenticity in Arizona wine; to improve grape growing and winemaking across all Arizona wine regions; and to help promote Arizona wines so they are recognized, respected and sought-after in Arizona, the U.S., and globally. AZVA has certified over 225 wines using 100% Arizona-grown grapes to date and works to establish parameters for growing grapes and producing wines in Arizona. AZVA also collects, evaluates and shares Arizona viniculture data to identify Arizona wine-growing regions and assist winemakers in their craft. For more information on certified Arizona wine, educational events and tastings, visit [www.arizonavigneronsalliance.org](http://www.arizonavigneronsalliance.org).

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