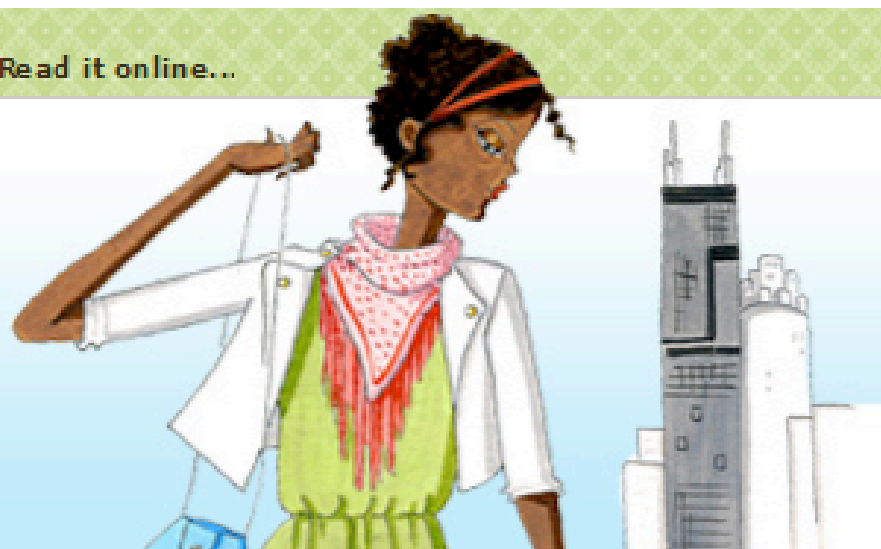


ideal  bite
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LOCAL BITE – CHICAGO

CITY BREAK: WESTERN IL WINE TOUR

Alexander the Grape



The Bite

Didn't know the Midwest rules when it comes to making wine? March along the wine trail near Peoria and see for yourself. First stop: Kickapoo's tasting room (complete with fireplace) for a glass of sweet Red October table wine before gawking at the fall foliage around tree-lined Lake Elizabeth. Then catch Mackinaw Valley's rolling vineyard views while sipping spicy-but-mellow Alexander's Conquest, a Cab and Frontenac blend. Pad your belly with a nutty Croatian povitica pastry from **Liz Marie's** bakery on your way to our fave - Willett's Winery (see photo). Knock back an oaky, Chianti-like Leon Millot while nibbling creamy, **locally made** Muenster. Post-vino: Chow organic, farm-inspired dishes at **June**, then snooze at Randolph Terrace Inn if you don't wanna battle traffic home.

Small Changes
ADD UP

If 10,000 Chicago Bites drink one bottle of wine from IL instead of from CA, we'll save enough fuel to drive a Prius to Peoria and back 196 times.

Wanna Try?

Western Illinois Wine Trail, Peoria area, approx. 3 hours west of Chicago.

Kickapoo Creek Winery, 6605 N. Smith Rd., Edwards (309-495-9463). Tastings, \$1 or free with purchase; Red October, \$16/bottle.

Mackinaw Valley Vineyard, 33633 Illinois Rt. 9, Mackinaw (309-359-9463). Tastings, free; Alexander's Conquest, \$22/bottle.

Willett's Winery & Cellar, 105 E. Market St., Manito (309-968-7070). Tastings, free; Leon Millot, \$14/bottle.

Randolph Terrace Historic Inn, 201 W. Columbia Terrace, Peoria (309-688-7858). Roanoke room, \$125/night.

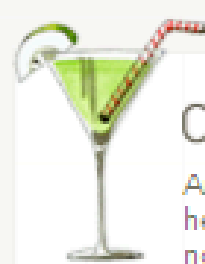
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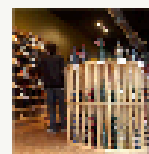


COCKTAIL FACT

Aristotle tutored Alexander the Great when he was a kid, along with children of other nobles like Ptolemy and Cassander.

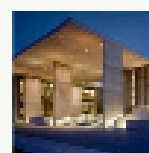
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