

VINIFLORE

An educational and commercial event at Edgard Pisani wine school

This wine fair has been organized in our school every year since 1994.

On the third week end in November, French wines produced in different agricultural schools can be tasted for free and bought after the visit : both tasting session and sales are organized by our students who study wine growing, wine making and wine tasting.

Other students of our school – from landscape and personal and community service sections – do take part in this event (with for example some practice in landscape gardening).

Apart from wine, we also propose other products from French agricultural schools : oysters from Bourcefranc (near La Rochelle), cooked pork meats from Vire (in Normandy), foie gras from Vendée (near la Rochelle), etc.

All the wines for this fair are from all the wine schools in France, so that each wine region is represented (this concept was first invented in the school in Fondettes, Tours, in 1991 and since 1994, it has been a rule for all members of the “ GIE “ , an association of agricultural schools with economic interests). So, visitors will be given the opportunity to taste wines from Bordeaux (schools in Libourne and Blanquefort), Burgundy (schools in Beaune and Macon), Alsace (school in Rouffach), Champagne (school in Crézancy), from the Rhone Valley (schools in Orange and Carpentras), Languedoc (schools in Montpellier, Nîmes and Carcassonne), etc.

Since 2008, there have also been wines from European wine schools : Oppenheim (Germany, in the Rhin Valley), Fermil (Portugal, in the Douro Valley), Sant-Sadurni (Spain, in Catalonia), Alba (Italy, in Toscane), and Retz (in Austria). This cooperation with these European partners is a way for us to encourage relations between European students, and thus develop an educational approach to European citizenship. These commercial projects are closely linked with educational partnership : for example, when we set up European projects (Comenius in February 2011 for our school with the school in Fermil and a wine school in Bulgaria), school trips (Austria and Spain in 2009, Germany/Poland and the Czech Republic in 2010, England in 2010), when trainees or groups of foreign students are put up in our school or when we organize international mobility for our students for their work placement.

The whole staff of our school is involved in this 2-day wine fair. There are about 2,000 visitors coming during the week end. Through this wine fair, we want to propose quality wine made in wine schools in France and abroad. For 2011, the event will be held on November 19th and 20th and it will be great pleasure to meet you for Viniflore.