

Colorado's Burgeoning Wine Country, Part 2- The Front Range

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Colorado now boasts more than 80 bonded wineries. Most people would be surprised to learn that many of these wineries are not located on a vineyard. Boulder County holds the record for the most number of Front Range wineries.

Several wineries are just a quick drive from downtown Denver. The most popular, family run operation is **Balistreri Vineyards** which produces a unique handcrafted range of hearty wines in the old-world tradition. Originally in the flower nursery business, John Balistreri made wine for home consumption, just like his Sicilian forefathers, before becoming a commercial wine maker. The Balistreris currently produce more than 3,500 cases of primarily red wines such as Merlot, Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Sangiovese and Zinfandel. Their unique and upfront taste profiles set the standard for "macho" wines. Balistreri Vineyards has received numerous statewide and national awards. Most of Balistreri wines sell out fast, making it difficult for the winery to maintain an inventory of



Grape stomp at Balistreri Vineyards Harvest Festival
Balistreri Vineyards hosts several great events during the year. Their annual Harvest Party is coming up on October 4, 2009. Guests will enjoy new releases, delicious food samplings, old-fashioned grape stomping plus live music. Tickets are \$55 in advance.

[Balistreri Vineyards](#)

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Check out [Colorado's Burgeoning Wine Country Part 1](#)

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