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The Little Nell Proudly Presents...



WINE ACADEMY 2019



THE LITTLE NELL WINE ACADEMY RETURNS THIS SPRING

Aspen, Colo. (March 1, 2019) – Back by popular demand, **The Little Nell Wine Academy** returns this spring, this time focusing on the “Wines of Italy.” Held from April 7 – 10 in Aspen, Colo., the third consecutive year will be presented by a knowledgeable team of sommeliers – three who hold their Master Sommelier certifications, Carlton McCoy, Jay Fletcher and Sabato Sagaria, and two who are Advanced Sommeliers, Csaba “Chubby” Oveges and Erik Elliott.

Recognized by many publications including *Departures*, *Robb Report*, *Gotham* and *The Aspen Times* as “the ultimate wine education experience,” you’ll find a comprehensive course in the world of wines, spirits, food pairings, and service, as well as dining etiquette at the highest level of standards. The Wine Academy is open to one and all, ages 21 and older, with no prior wine knowledge necessary.

Classes will take place at the prestigious, members-only Aspen Mountain Club, situated at 11,212 feet, in full view of the awe-inspiring Elk Mountains. Meals, wine tastings and special events will also be staged at The Little Nell. [The Schedule of Events can be viewed here.](#)

As a participant, you will develop the knowledge and confidence to discuss a comprehensive range of alcoholic beverages, as well as confidently recognize general wine quality and flaws. At the conclusion of the course, a two-part exam will be given, beginning with a blind tasting, followed by a written test.

The Little Nell’s wine program has received numerous accolades and awards, including Wine Spectator’s prestigious Grand Award since 1997, a coveted spot in *Wine Enthusiast’s* Hall of Fame, and most recently, named a semifinalist in the 2019 James Beard Awards just this week. Counting a record number of ten in total, more Master Sommeliers have been on staff at The Little Nell than at any other establishment in the country.

Master Sommelier Carlton McCoy will oversee this year's course, the last time in his role as Wine Director at The Little Nell. McCoy will move to Napa in the late spring for an opportunity with Heitz Cellar, though we look forward to seeing him return frequently for events such as the upcoming Food & Wine Classic in June and more. "After 8 1/2 years at The Nell, the perfect way to say 'arrivederci' is with an Italian-themed Wine Academy," McCoy added. "We're going to have a lot of fun and learn about some of the world's greatest wines along the way."

Among the cast of sommeliers McCoy has assembled for the Wine Academy this year is former Little Nell F&B Director Sabato Sagaria, M.S. "I can't think of a more beautiful setting outside of Italy to learn about Italian wine," said Sagaria. "I'm looking forward to sharing my passion for one of the most diverse wine regions in the world alongside some of my favorite people in the wine world," he said.

The registration fee of \$3,500 for The Little Nell Wine Academy covers the cost of the course, comprising two full-days and two half-days of presentations; a comprehensive workbook; exceptional wine and spirits from Italy; and all meals and Wine Academy activities. There will also be many interactive opportunities for learning and networking, as well as experiencing all that the luxurious Little Nell offers. Please note, the course registration fee does not include accommodations.

Registration: To reserve your place or for additional information, [please fill out this form](#) and/or contact Shawna Rahm, Director of Events at The Little Nell, at srahm@thelittlenell.com or 970.920.6256.

Accommodations: As The Little Nell will close on April 7 for a renovation to the hotel's common areas, all guests will be accommodated at our sister property, The Limelight Hotel Aspen, just a few blocks from The Nell. As a token of our appreciation and to offer Wine Academy guests an opportunity to experience the luxe accommodations at The Little Nell at a later date, a gift certificate for a complimentary two-night stay at The Little Nell will be extended to Wine Academy guests, good for one year from date of issue. To inquire about accommodations, please contact Ilka Hettrich, Reservations Group Coordinator, at ihettrich@thelittlenell.com or 970.536.6110. Preferred room rates for the three-night course are available at \$199 per night at the Limelight Hotel Aspen (plus tax and resort fee), single or double occupancy. Pre- and post-stays may also be available, based on space.

Video:

<https://vimeopro.com/aspensnowmass/thelittlenell/video/221478180>

Images:

<https://aspensnowmass.imagerelay.com/sb/55bffa0f-b468-4457-b7c8-4fe1e64d9185/the-little-nell-wine-academy>

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About The Little Nell

Cosmopolitan yet intimate, contemporary yet timeless, The Little Nell invites guests to experience Aspen's only Forbes Five-Star, AAA Five-Diamond, ski-in/ski-out hotel – a Relais & Châteaux resort. For more information and for reservations, please call 888.The.Nell (888.843.6355) or visit www.thelittlenell.com. Follow The Little Nell on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). #NellStyle

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