

Are you a Wine Warrior?

By Debbie Gioquindo, CTC, CSW, WLS

Summer is here and the Wine Warrior in you is itching to get out. You're ready to explore the vineyards and salivating just thinking about the new releases the wineries will uncork. More than just a casual taster, you're out to explore new wineries, compare vintages, and find your new favorite bottle this season. You're ready for the ultimate tasting, loaded with questions for the winemaker and tasting room staff.

Are you packed and ready to go? Do you have a plan? Of course. You did your research. You're a warrior, set to leave for wine country at a moment's notice. Your battery is charged, your smart phone is ready, but do you have the latest gear essential for the hunt?

Before you don your warrior garb and apply your warrior paint (sunscreen and sunglasses), grab your trusty survival kit, and let's take a look at some of this season's must-have new wine gadgets and accessories that will say, "Look out winery, here I come!"



VinniBag

Air-cushioned chambers inflate to protect almost any size or shape bottle against impact and leakage. TSA-approved pack is reusable, recyclable and stores flat. \$28.00 | vinnibag.com



Mobile Wine Tour

The ultimate wine touring app! Search for wineries closest to your location, by what's open now or later today, or even by which wines they produce. \$2.99 | mobilewinetour.com



Dr. Bronner's Naked Organic Lip Balm

Protects your lips and won't interfere with the taste of your wine. \$2.99 | drbronner.com



Capabunga

Reusable silicon cap reseals any size bottle of wine with a liquid-tight seal. \$7.95/2 | capabunga.com



Vino2Go Cup

Finally, the all-familiar sippy cup for adults! Double-walled, durable, BPA-free and perfect for wine on the go. \$15.99 | theproductfam.com



HydroFlask

Lightweight, sweat-free, double-wall vacuum insulated and 18/8 food-grade stainless steel. Keeps cold liquids cold and hot liquids hot for 12 hours. Available in narrow or wide-mouth sizes in dozens of cool colors. \$27.99 | hydroflask.com