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Win a Romantic Walla Walla Weekend to "Sip and Select" the Perfect Wines for Upcoming Wedding Day

The luxurious Marcus Whitman Hotel launches sweepstakes to host one lucky couple for an unforgettable wedding planning weekend; Jan. 24 Bridal Expo showcases best of the region

WALLA WALLA, WASH. – Jan. 8, 2015 – Amid the hustle and bustle of wedding planning, engaged couples are invited to enter to win a relaxing and romantic weekend getaway touring Walla Walla wine country to taste test potential toasts for the big day. Sponsored by the beautiful Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center, sweepstakes entries are being accepted now through March 31, 2015 at facebook.com/TheMarcusWhitman.

For one lucky winning couple, the unforgettable wine valley weekend will include:

- Two nights stay at the historic Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center
- Exquisite dinner at the nationally-recognized The Marc Restaurant on the hotel grounds, led by Executive Chef Scott McLean
- An afternoon of wine tours and tastings, with guidance from Marcus Whitman sommelier, including:
 - Up to four pre-selected winery tours
 - Exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of one select winery and a meet-and-greet with the Winemaker
 - o Picnic lunch from The Marc restaurant to enjoy during the wine tasting excursion
 - Car service to transport to/from selected wineries
- Private Marcus Whitman grounds tour highlighting the wedding spaces and signature offerings

Also of interest to brides and grooms-to-be, the Marcus Whitman will host its annual **Bridal Expo** on Saturday, Jan. 24 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. in the hotel's Explorer Ballroom. Catering to those interested in tying the knot in the picturesque Walla Walla region, the event features an array of wedding vendors, venues, prize drawings and more. Brides can pre-register online at

http://marcuswhitmanhotel.com/weddings/bridal-expo/ by Jan. 16 to receive complimentary admission and a gift at check-in. General admission day of event is \$5.00.

Nestled in the heart of the quaint downtown, the Marcus Whitman itself is a top wedding destination in Washington's famed Walla Walla wine country. The celebrated property's luxurious ambiance provides for a stunning wedding venue, complete with elegant ballrooms that host ceremonies and receptions for

up to 450 guests. In addition, the historic property includes 127 beautifully appointed guest rooms, seven on-site wine tasting rooms and The Marc Restaurant.

Already have a venue for the big day? In addition to guest lodging, the Marcus Whitman is also available to organize and host wedding-related events through The Marc and the property's talented catering team that serves both onsite and offsite venues. From gourmet rehearsal dinners, to bridal showers, engagement parties, ceremonies, bachelor or bachelorette dinners, farewell bridal brunches and more, the Marcus Whitman Hotel will create a one-of-a-kind meal to remember.

Menus feature a variety that extends beyond the traditional banquet fare, from coffee break selections, to trays and platters, elaborate buffets, four-course plated meals, customized Winemaker's Dinners and more. In addition, the Marcus Whitman provides linens, tables, chairs, serving ware and banquet servers, making it a true one-stop-shop for any size event or budget.

To learn more about hosting a wedding at the Marcus Whitman Hotel please call (509) 524-5106 or contact catering@mwhcc.com.

About The Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center

Built in 1928 through a community labor of love, The Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center is a downtown Walla Walla landmark where history and luxury intertwine. The property was fully renovated in 2001 and restored to its original grandeur, while adding modern updates to provide a truly luxurious experience for today's traveler. The full grounds include a 127-room hotel with luxury suites, a state-of-the art conference center featuring grand renaissance ballrooms, seven on-site wine tasting rooms, and the award-winning The Marc Restaurant and The Vineyard Lounge. Thousands of overnight guests, diners, wine lovers, conference goers, business travelers and pleasure seekers enjoy the Marcus Whitman's exceptional guest service each year, where they find "ladies and gentlemen serving ladies and gentlemen" to the backdrop of modern splendor. www.marcuswhitmanhotel.com