

# ON CLOUD WINE

By Karin L. White • Photo by Randy Larson

As the owner of On Cloud Wine, Randy Larson loves to sit down with guests to share the unique story of his winery and vineyard. "I enjoy describing our comprehensive wine portfolio," he shares, "and helping them to choose wines that fit their individual palates."

Randy's vineyard is the Spirits of Norway in the town of Norway, about ten minutes from Franklin. He planted the first of his vines in 2011, with an eye to retiring from his construction business and having a source of relaxation, pleasure and perhaps profit. It takes about three years to have a full crop of grapes to make wine. Randy began by supplementing what they grew with purchased grapes and started to dabble in winemaking. In 2017, Spirits of Norway Vineyard graduated to the status of a professional winery.

"In 2021, I sold the construction business," he reflects. He then pursued the winemaking in earnest, and has several award winners in his collection. All of his 134 handcrafted wines are now sold all over Southeastern Wisconsin via their online store, in liquor stores, grocery stores and wherever fine wines are sold. They also appear on the menus in many pubs and restaurants.

"My winemaker, Justin, has been with me for about four years," Randy beams. "He is very enthusiastic about winemaking. Justin planted his first grapevines on his parents' property when he was only 12 years old and was WSET level 2 certified at 20 years old."

Franklin residents have been very supportive of the recently opened, upscale establishment. Located at 10064 West Loomis Road, On Cloud Wine is a new concept that is unmatched in the vicinity. "They tell us that there is nothing like this for adults in the immediate area," Randy reveals. "On Cloud Wine provides us with the opportunity to showcase our award-winning wines that pair up nicely with our small plate menu." Staff hand-selected 45 of the very best wines produced to offer at On Cloud Wine.

On Cloud Wine is very new to the Franklin area. "We opened our doors July 24," Randy divulges. "Our mission was to provide a comfortable, cozy space for our guests to enjoy wine, share a bite to eat, and engage in conversation. On Cloud Wine is an upscale 'destination wine bar' featuring locally handcrafted wines, in an adult setting. Our popular food menu includes appetizers, Panini

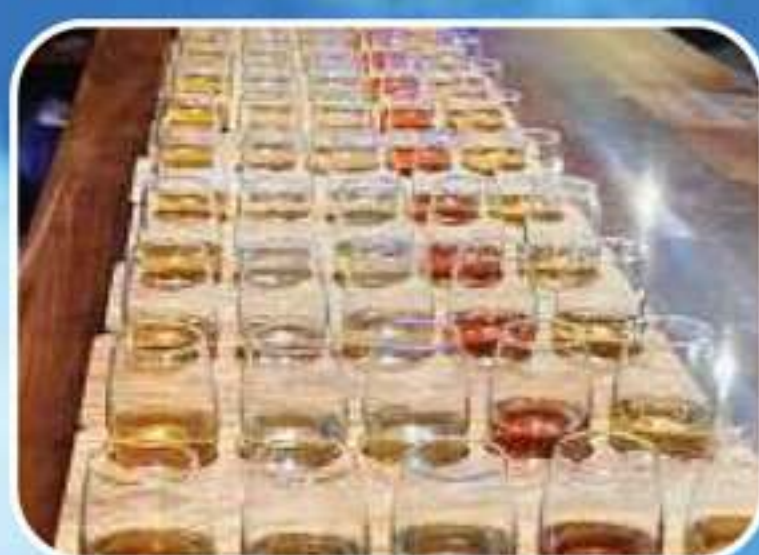


sandwiches, and our best-selling flatbread Pinsas. We provide free entertainment, including live music every Friday evening and stand-up comedy performances two Saturdays per month."

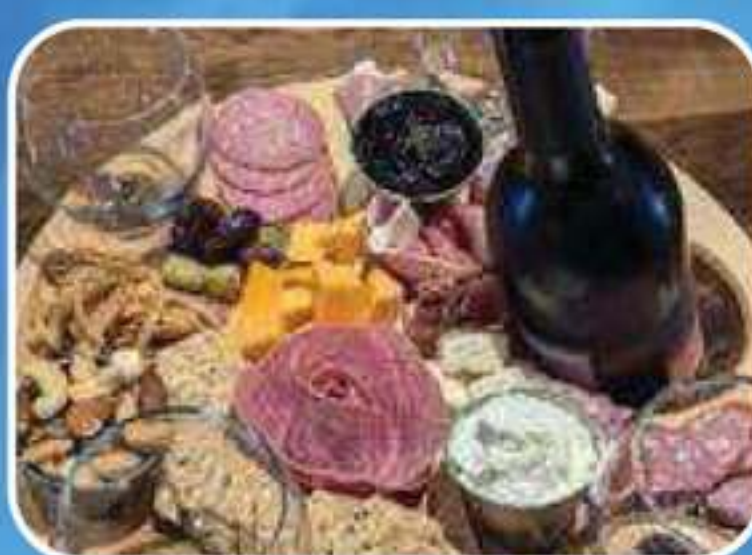
If you are interested in buying some of his wines for use at home, they are available online at his website, [www.spiritsofnorwayvineyard.com](http://www.spiritsofnorwayvineyard.com). When you order four bottles, he will buy you a free glass of wine when you pick up your order at On Cloud Wine. Of course, he ships to other locations, too. "Our top three locations to ship our wine are, in this order: Florida, Arizona, and - wait for it - California," he exclaims.

"Personally," Randy enthuses, "I feel my work family is my closest family. As the owner, I'm only as successful as the Team that actually performs all the work. We are extremely blessed to have an experienced Team that knows how to get the job done, have fun doing it, and engage with guests to elevate their customer experience. Our staff likes to joke around and tease when there is a little slow time. But they also know how to kick it into high gear when we are super busy. They all do an awesome job!"

## Franklin's Premiere Entertainment Destination



Extensive Wine Portfolio



Discover Our Small Plate Menu



Live Music Every Friday



Stand-Up Comedy two Saturdays a Month

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