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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**October 24, 2005**

**-Spotlight on Ports – THIS WEEKEND!-**

**Sonoma Valley “Ports of Call” ~ October 29 & 30**

SONOMA, Calif.— October 24, 2005 – Heart of Sonoma Valley Association’s (HOSVA) “Ports of Call” is this weekend! Guests are invited to ‘cruise’ to twelve wineries throughout the valley and enjoy a wide variety of delicious ports just in time for the Holiday Season! Enjoy port tastings paired with chocolates, cheese, and other nibbles while learning the fundamentals of what makes a great port through barrel sampling, educational seminars and more. Select discounts and gift items will be available at participating wineries. In addition, winemakers will be present at several wineries to share in this experience! The event is scheduled for this weekend, Saturday & Sunday, October 29 & 30 from 11 AM to 4 PM both days.

“This is the perfect wine tasting event for this time of year. Autumn is upon us, the holidays are just around the corner and so are dinner parties, galas and holiday celebrations! Our event will give our guests the opportunity to learn about a great selection of Ports as well as stock up on their wines to share for the holiday season!” Said Josie Gay, Executive Director of Heart of Sonoma Valley Association.

Participating wineries include: Benziger Family Winery, Eric Ross Winery, Imagery Estate Winery, Kaz Vineyard & Winery, Kunde Estate Winery & Vineyards, Ledson Winery & Vineyards, Loxton Cellars, Mayo Family Winery, St. Francis Winery & Vineyards, The Wine Room, VJB Vineyards & Cellars & Wellington Vineyards.

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Tickets are only \$15 per person. Admission includes souvenir wine glass and access to all participating wineries event wine tastings for the weekend.

**A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the American Red Cross in an effort to support the rebuilding of lives and homes in New Orleans.**

### **About Heart of Sonoma Valley Association**

Heart of Sonoma Valley Association (HOSVA) is a non-profit association of 22 wineries located on scenic Sonoma Highway where for a century and a half many of the vintages that have made California wines world leaders in viticulture have been harvested. In our 10 mile stretch of the wine country, in the environs of Glen Ellen and Kenwood, you'll find a blend of family owned and classically beautiful wineries filled with award winning wines, charming B&B's and elegant Luxury Inns, stylish wine bars, a diverse selection of restaurant and cafes, state parks, a lavender farm, olive presses and gift shops.

### **EVENT DETAILS AT A GLANCE:**

**What:** Spotlight on Ports – “Ports of Call”

**When:** THIS WEEKEND, Saturday, October 29 and Sunday October 30, 2005.

**Where:** Participating Wineries include: Benziger Family Winery, Eric Ross Winery, Imagery Estate Winery, Kaz Vineyard & Winery, Kunde Estate Winery & Vineyards, Ledson Winery & Vineyards, Loxton Cellars, Mayo Family Winery, St. Francis Winery & Vineyards, The Wine Room, VJB Vineyards & Cellars & Wellington Vineyards.

**Time:** 11 AM to 4 PM both days.

**Cost:** \$15 per person for the weekend. Includes logo wine glass and access to all wineries for the weekend. Tickets are available in advance online until Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 5pm or may be purchased at the door of participating wineries the weekend of the event.

**Info:** For info and tickets please visit [www.heartofsonomavalley.com](http://www.heartofsonomavalley.com) or call (866) 794-9463.

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