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## **Vinoteca falls into autumn with Sideways in September**

September 3, 2009, Royal Oak, Mich. – The 2004 film *Sideways*, a road movie dedicated to California’s Wine Country, might’ve given Merlot a bad name, but Royal Oak’s Vinoteca hasn’t given up on the varietal just yet.

To prove that Merlot is still a perfectly suitable wine, and just right for this time of year, Vinoteca will host a walk-around wine tasting 7-9 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 23 to celebrate Merlot. **Sideways in September** sets out to prove that though the movie might’ve left its mark on the wine business, and caused winemakers to pull up its vines in favor of Pinot Noir instead, Merlot is still on the map.

Vinoteca hopes visitors will come taste the difference for themselves. Sideways in September includes a strolling tasting of 10-15 wines along with cheeses and charcuterie. Tickets to this Hollywood-inspired event cost \$40 per person, plus tax and gratuity.

Vinoteca Wine Bar and Restaurant is located at 417 South Main Street in Royal Oak. Call 248-544-6250 to make a reservation for Sideways in September, or visit [www.vinoteca.com](http://www.vinoteca.com).

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