

Wine Tasting Associate – Flying Otter Tasting Room & Winery

Flying Otter Vineyard and Winery is seeking a part-time tasting room employee for our Adrian, MI location. Our seasonal tasting room opens May 1st and remains open through the end of October. This position primarily requires weekend and evening availability (Thursday–Sunday), from mid-to late afternoon until about 9:30 PM. Additionally, we both host and attend special wine tasting events, which may require minimal travel and extended hours throughout the year.

Candidates must be 21 to serve, be engaging wine enthusiasts, and be able to multitask with a welcoming smile.

Primary Focus: Provide on-site hospitality and sales of Flying Otter wines and ciders in our winery/tasting room. This role requires strong communication skills, confidence in engaging with customers, and the ability to recommend wines based on guests' tastes and preferences.

General Responsibilities:

- Welcome guests, engage, and answer questions about wine, food, and facilities in a friendly, helpful manner.
- Provide guided wine tastings to enhance guest experiences.
- Prepare, describe, and pour wine according to established tasting procedures and legal guidelines.
- Actively educate guests about the winery, wines, winemaking techniques, food pairings, and events. Recommend and sell wines, wine tasting experiences, wine clubs, and non wine.
- Maintain effective communication with tasting room co-workers, kitchen staff, and managers to ensure a pleasant guest experience.
- Assist customers with sales and event activities, offering general tourist information as needed.
- Open and close the tasting room (prep for the day and clean/shutdown down procedures).
- Maintain cleanliness of the tasting room and related facilities (e.g., clear tableware, wipe tables and chairs, sweep, wash/buff glassware, etc.).
- Complete necessary side work during non-busy hours and perform other assigned duties.
- Support and assist special events in the winery/tasting room, Otter Club, or off-site locations.
- Aid in restocking, inventory tracking, and merchandising efforts.
- Maintain a safe, sanitary, organized, and well-stocked work area.
- Consistently expand knowledge of food and wine.

Qualifications:

- Must be 21 or older, with a valid MI driver's license and insurance.
- 1 to 2 years of related experience preferred but not required for enthusiastic, quick learners.
- Proficient in English, able to communicate and engage with a diverse customer base.
- Professional appearance, cleanliness, and demeanor.

- Capable of handling routine POS transactions, including operating sales software,
- performing basic math, handling cash, and processing discounts.
- Able to multitask and work calmly and effectively under pressure in a fast-paced environment.
- Flexible and adaptable, able to manage shifting priorities with enthusiasm and poise.
- Willing to work a flexible schedule, including most weekends and some holidays.
- Passionate about wine, with a strong desire to learn more about wine and winemaking.
- Ability to follow company policies and procedures.
- Physical Requirements:
- Ability to stand and walk for extended periods.
- Must be able to lift up to 40 pounds repeatedly.

Compensation:

- Paid training
- Starting at \$11/hour, plus tips and performance-based bonuses
- Complimentary meal provided each shift
- Direct deposit payroll

Interested applicants, please email your resume and cover letter to positions@flyingotter.com.