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~ WINEMAKING AT A HIGHER LEVEL ~

For Immediate Release

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Fall, Winter and Wine: Diversity is Delightful!

(El Dorado County, Calif.) -- For many of us, the fall season is our favorite time of year. There's just enough of a nip in the air to put one small log in the fireplace and throw on a cozy sweater. Autumn provides the perfect preview to months of slow cooked, stick-to-the ribs food and casual bottles of wine. Deep and hefty reds are often the classic choices, but why stop there? Why not add diversity to the wines you choose for your fall and winter fare?

For instance:

1. **Gewürztraminer** is a wonderful wine to pair with pumpkin soup or a traditional turkey seasoned with sage. Or a **Pinot Gris** works well if you simply want to tuck into a meal of Chinese takeout.
2. That broth-based seafood stew on the stove will be enhanced with a white Rhone varietal such as **Roussanne**, or baked squash with a vibrant **Viognier**.
3. Think pink for pasta with a tomato-based seafood sauce or that Indian curry you crave. **Rose´** is becoming an increasingly popular choice for cooler months.
4. And, of course, the luscious, casual reds that worked so well during barbeque season hold more than their own during the chillier months when the menu includes heavier, more intense flavors like spicy chops, lasagna or aromatic stews. You just can't go wrong with a hearty **Zinfandel** or **Barbera**, a food-friendly **Syrah** or a full-bodied **Cabernet Franc**.

These varietals, and many more, are handcrafted by vintners at more than two dozen El Dorado wineries. The region's high elevations and diverse microclimates provide the perfect conditions for creating a wide variety of wines with distinctive and unique characteristics — the best to offer for casual, cool weather entertaining or cozy meals.

Interested in trying any of these wines, and more? Complimentary tastings are offered at El Dorado's wineries seven days a week. Located in California's scenic gold country in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada, this award winning wine region is an easy drive from nearby Sacramento, South Lake Tahoe or the San Francisco area. For a list of wineries and a map, visit www.ElDoradoWines.org.

El Dorado's luscious wines — and the friendly demeanor of its winemakers and tasting room staffs — would certainly help take the chill off the coming months.