

THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

In recent years, berries of all kinds have been receiving a lot of press due to their antioxidant properties and health benefits. Grapes, particularly those used in wine, are appearing in a variety of products across market segments. Food and beverages, accessories and innovative packaging, and high-end skincare products based on wine continue to emerge.

Wine and Dine... Following the eco-friendly trend, biodynamic wines (wines made without pesticides and artificial additives) are gaining popularity. **Bonny Doon** (California) is a quirky brand while **Marc Kreydenweiss** (Alsace, France) is a more serious brand. Both offer a selection of biodynamic wines. For *cooks*, **Academie Culinary Wines** recently introduced four cooking blends to complement different food groups such as "**Blend #2 for seafood, poultry, and pork**." For *foodies*, **Colorado Mountain Fine Wine Jellies** features jellies made with different grape varieties such as **Cabernet Sauvignon** (made with the Cabernet Sauvignon Wine of Spero Winery). Similar to wine jellies, **Wine Cellar Sorbet** tantalizes the palate with sorbets based on "finished wines from around the world." Flavors range from **Champagne** and **Riesling to Sake**. *Health conscious* individuals can eat the **Resveratrol Winetime Nutrition Bar**, which contains "Resveratrol, the ingredient in grapes acclaimed for its ability to forestall the ravages of time." If you want the benefits of wine, but not the alcohol, try **First Blush Juice** in four variants **Cabernet, Chardonnay, Syrah, and Merlot**. For *kids*, there's always **Welch's Grape Juice** and **Pop-Tarts'** just launched **Frosted Wild! Grape**.

Accessorize... For wine aficionados there's the **Skybar Wine System**, a home unit that "chills, pours and preserves" wine for up to 10 days. For glasses, **Go Vino Shatterproof Glasses** are "made from shatterproof plastic." For cool and innovative packaging, **94Wines** uses a unique color and numbering system to identify different varieties. They also offer a high tech feature which allows individuals to personalize their wine bottle with text, photo or video using a QR Code read by a mobile phone camera. For an eco-friendly alternative, **Wineberry** is packaged in a "wood box made from sustainable forests in Bordeaux" and contains four wine bottles that last up to 6 weeks.

Beautify... wine isn't just for drinking. High-end skincare products are focusing on wine as an active ingredient. The **L'Or de Vie** line by **Dior** was created from the extract of vines from the Chateau D'Yquem estate. **Caudalie** offers a vinotherapy skincare range based on patented technology that stabilizes grape seed polyphenols. For a spa experience, visit **Loisium Aveda Wine Spa** in Austria and indulge in a grape bath, wine skin peel, or grape essence treatment. For more affordable products with grape seed extracts, check out **Merlot Skin Care** and **29 Cosmetics**.

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Regards,

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