

The Solar Eclipse is coming! The Solar Eclipse is coming!

Solar Eclipse Viewing and Wine Tasting Trip Date: **Monday, April 8, 2024**

Fox Creek Vineyards and Winery, Olney, IL

OLLI Bus Trip. Cost: \$40.00 + \$3.00 suggested cash for bus driver tip and \$1.00 wine tasting
(Guests: \$60.00 + \$3.00 suggested cash for bus driver tip and \$1.00 wine tasting)

We will pass an envelope around each bus on the way to Olney.

Contacts: Janet (**217-766-3794**); Kathryn (**716-341-3552**)

Trip details:

- 7:20 a.m. Begin loading chairs & picnic baskets/coolers into the underneath compartments of the buses. The venue does have some picnic tables and seating available, but not enough for everyone. They encourage us to bring folding chairs (bag chairs) and blankets. Because both buses will be full, please limit the size of the items you bring. There will be some space for smaller items in the overhead compartments.
- 7:30 a.m. Boarding begins. **Do not board before checking in (at the bus entrance) with Janet or Kathryn.** You may travel on either bus, but please travel on the same bus for the trip down and the return.
- 8:00 a.m. Leave M2 building on Hill Street (under the OLLI building sign)
Andrew Jones will deliver a lecture on solar eclipses on the trip down.
(There will be a brief stop halfway for him to change buses.)
- 10:30 a.m. Arrive at Fox Creek Vineyards and Winery, Olney, IL
- 10:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Tour Vineyards and Winery, View Eclipse, Wine Tasting
2:02 – 2:06 p.m. (totality) Fox Creek Vineyards and Winery is a local business eager to welcome OLLI members for this special day. They plan to provide live music during times before and after totality and will have a taco stand serving handmade tacos from the Blind Pig caterers. They recommend that you bring your own picnic lunch as well. **You may not bring alcohol onto their grounds.** When we arrive at the vineyard, they will meet us at the buses, hand out tasting tickets for wine, and give any last-minute instructions. On Friday, we learned that they will also have commemorative event items, such as T-shirts and large insulated cups, available for sale as souvenirs.
- 3:15 p.m. Depart Fox Creek Vineyards and Winery
- 5:45 p.m. Arrive back at M2 building

All times are approximate. Please be aware that the ETA back in Champaign assumes no delays. As you likely know, traffic jams were common following the solar eclipse of 2017. After discussing potential scenarios with Dave Leake, we've decided to leave our viewing site approximately 15 minutes before the end of the eclipse in an attempt to avoid a similar experience on our return trip.

Please note: Fox Creek does not serve food and is not within walking distance of local eateries. **OLLI members will need to provide their own food and non-alcoholic beverages for the day's excursion.** OLLI will provide basic snacks and water for the bus trip and during the wine tasting.
Don't forget to bring your solar eclipse glasses!