

FOR: ENO AT THE FAIRMONT CHICAGO
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**WINE, CHEESE AND CHOCOLATE OFFERINGS TAKE FLIGHT AT ENO,
WHERE GUESTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO LEARN AND INDULGE**

Chicago, Ill. – Imagine a lounge devoted solely to the three most sensual indulgences you can savor. A place where gourmet chocolates and rare cheeses are stored in temperature-controlled rooms before they are served on marble slabs, and a staff of sommeliers is on hand to help you experience, taste and learn about nearly 500 varietals of wine. That’s just what your taste buds can expect at **ENO at the Fairmont Chicago**, the wine, cheese and chocolate bar located inside the luxurious Fairmont Chicago.

Strategic Hotels and Resorts tapped San Francisco-based restaurant design company **The Puccini Group** (Dine, Atwood Café, Birch River Grill) to create a concept that would put an educational and interactive twist on the wine bar inside their Fairmont Chicago property.

“It’s a fun, sexy place to experience a variety of wine, cheese and chocolate,” explains Brian Reed, VP of Operations for the Puccini Group. Reed’s opening team includes Wine Director Melissa Principe and Sommelier Bonnie Frumkin, who have impressive resumes boasting extensive experience and wine education. The global wine list flaunts 300 to 500 different varietals showcased in dramatic, 10-foot-tall temperature-controlled oak cabinets that frame the space. The vino at **ENO** is available by the bottle, glass and flight. Each flight offers tastings and consists of anything from three Pinot Noirs from the same valley to three Chardonnays from the same year.

For the chocolate menu, Reed, and his staff have compiled a confectionary selection of hand-made caramels and truffles from local chocolatiers, which are served in pieces or by flight. And the cheese menu consists of about 35 different cheeses from small producers around the world, also served by the flight.

As if the items on **ENO**’s menus aren’t intoxicating enough on their own, the staff encourages the pairing of all three. The space is situated in the center of the Fairmont Chicago’s new, contemporary lobby, in an elegant, slightly recessed space encircled by an open-work bronze and stunning crystal art wall. Rustic tones of burnt sienna and eggplant accent the multi-textured furniture and the custom carpeting, designed to look like the slate floor of a traditional wine cellar. **ENO** incorporates comfortable lounge-style seating for 52 while 16-foot hammered brass and live-edge white oak bar is fronted with backlit glass.

The vibe at **ENO** is casual, friendly and non-pretentious, and a retail component allows you to take home any of the wine, chocolate or cheese you fall in love with. But chances are, no one will want to leave the confines of this cozy wine, cheese and chocolate sensation.

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