

William Retires and The Wine Room Closes

The Wine Room at Putnam Market will close when William Roach retires at the end of the year. In January, The Café at Putnam Market will open.

William steered our wine store through 26 years made memorable by remarkable bottles and even more remarkable people. Many customers are friends. Colleagues, suppliers and the occasional Skidmore graduate have made wildly successful careers in the wine industry thanks to William teaching the qualifications awarded by WSET, the wine education gold standard.

William is a WSET® Certified Educator and will continue teaching WSET® classes at Putnam Market.

The Café at Putnam Market is coming at the start of the year. Expect barista service, afternoon tea, take-out sandwiches, soups, baked goods, and wine and beer by the glass, Plus, extra space means extra goodies: specialty groceries, confections, party supplies, and Putnam Market branded merchandise.

These changes set the stage for our anniversary celebration in June 2025 when we will celebrate 30 years of an evolution of Putnam Market that is true to the community spirit we cherish.

We can't wait to welcome you to The Café at Putnam Market and continue serving you at Putnam Market.





Personal Note from William

It was a surprise - the end of my years as a wine merchant, the end of the wine store - but then, everything surprises me.

I was surprised to find myself leaving London for Saratoga Springs. I was surprised to become a shop worker. I was surprised when I sold my first unbroken case of wine (thank you, David.)

And I was surprised, though I should not have been, to find myself in a community of warm, clever, welcoming people who somehow found a place for me, right in the heart of the city.

What a difference my arrival made! Movie theaters rose up, condominiums broke ground, multi-billion-dollar hi-tech investments came to town and bit by bit Broadway was repaired and rebuilt. And I, and the Wine Room, were center stage. The city of Saratoga Springs was transformed during The Wine Room's tenure at Putnam Market.

So I say goodbye to all that with sincere gratitude for the many kindnesses shown to me - a fresh off the boat Brit – by you, my friends and neighbors. And while I can't claim any responsibility for the wonderful city where we live, I was there as it happened, and I am grateful I was. I was also surprised by the whole thing.

Meanwhile, Putnam Market never stops surprising me, especially the sisters, Gloria and Catharine, who are indomitable.