

Just a reminder that you are receiving this email because at some point you expressed interest in the Wines of British Columbia.

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Welcome to *The Vine*, a seasonal newsletter brought to you by the [Wines of British Columbia](#). *The Vine* is your guide to everything BC VQA Wine.

Share your love for BC wine by using [#BCWine](#) and [#BCVQA](#) in social media.



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Explore BC VQA Wine & Win Contest winners

Congratulations to Explore BC VQA Wine & Win winner Shelley Colliver from Chase, BC, who won our [Bring in the Harvest](#) Prize Package! Grand prize includes flights and accommodation for two to Explore BC VQA Wine Country over 3 days and 2 nights during the Autumn Season. Included are two tickets to the Sold Out Naramata Bench Wineries Association end of season Tailgate Party! Our winners enjoy some amazing wine country hospitality from our BCWI members. Curious about our next contest? Enter to win online at www.winebc.com/behere



Shelley posted this snap on Instagram capturing the moment of her betrothal during a visit to Monte Creek Ranch Winery in Kamloops, BC. Only diamonds could make a BC VQA Wine and Food experience even better!

Don't just sip there!

[Customize your BC wine tours today!](#)

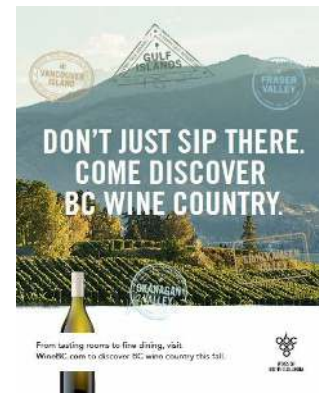
Book and personalize your custom wine tour during one of the most breathtaking seasons to explore BC wine country.

Just in time for fall, BCWI is now offering the *Wines of British Columbia* Trip Planner application that empowers visitors with valuable knowledge on everything BC wine country.

This application will help you navigate around various BC wine regions, providing details about winery features including what varietals they feature, whether they have a restaurant or patio, hours of operation and more.

Those who have used the online trip planner beforehand can save their route and access it via the application.

Now available in the [Apple App](#) and [Google Play](#) Store. Download and try our application today!



The Winners!

Best of BC Wine Country 2017

In our recent contest, the *Wines of British Columbia* learned first hand what keeps bringing winery-goers back for more.

The BC Wine Institute's *Best of BC Wine Country Awards* called on the public to vote on their top picks including every winery and region in British Columbia.

The contest lasted four weeks and crowd-sourced close to 2000 votes, with 30% of people voting on multiple wine regions across BC!



The Okanagan Valley showed tremendous diversity of winners, the Similkameen Valley showed a strong presence, with the Fraser Valley, Vancouver Island and notably the emerging regions displaying some hidden treasures that BC wine enthusiasts can take note of.

So what are the consumer favourites in each of the "best of" categories for 2017?

Visit bestof.winebc.com for a snapshot list of winners from every region including honorable mentions. We invite you to open your mind to new wines and experiences that

honourable mentions. We invite you to open your mind to new wines and experiences that others have shared and rated as their best!

Free My Grapes *Add your voice*

Are you a wine consumer hoping for the free flow of Canadian wine across provincial borders?

You aren't alone. Only British Columbia, Manitoba and Nova Scotia allow for the legal shipping of wine from out-of-province.



Today, Canadian wine consumers including a lawyer from Calgary, a retired teacher and farmer from Saskatchewan, and others are taking action to fight for greater choice and the elimination of trade barriers.

In addition, the *Wines of British Columbia* have formally added their [support](#) to ensure all Canadians have the right to purchase and enjoy wine products from anywhere in Canada.

If you agree, please add your voice. Let's make Canada stronger, together.

[Contact Free My Grapes](#). Follow the conversation online.



[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

[FreeMyGrapes.ca](#)



**LET'S FIGHT FOR
CANADIAN WINES!**

#FREEMYGRAPES



Wine & Dine

Restaurants at BC wineries you might not know about!

Cool fact. Today there are forty-five wineries across British Columbia that offer local delicious cuisine to pair with high quality BC wines.

Below are five restaurants that have come on the scene lately. Visit their websites for a full feature on menus, wines, and availability!

Download [BC Winery Restaurants](#) for a complete list of excellent places to dine and wine in BC.

[Picnique at JoieFarm Winery](#)

A daily wood-fired menu includes classic bianco and margerita pizzas, fresh schnitzel and tuna nicoise, fire-roasted fare and seasonal market pizzas made with vibrant Okanagan ingredients sourced from the Penticton Farm market and local artisans. Open daily from 11:30 am - 4:30 pm with take-out available until 5:00 pm.



Photo Credit: JoieFarm Winery
Wood-Fired Pizza

[Masala Bistro at Kismet Estate Winery](#)

Offering traditional indian cuisine dishes and charcuterie from well-known chefs, Masala Bistro's menu is excellent. We adore the Tandoori selections; meat marinated in yogurt and seasoned in delicious spices and cooked in a bell shaped clay oven with temperatures reaching up to 480° C. The dish delivers a charry flavour and is served with seasoned rice.

[Bistro at Play Estate Winery](#)

Termed "performances", Play Estate Winery offers visitors matinee and evening [menus](#) that will catch the hungry visitor's eye and make you stay and play awhile. We recommend the panko-cruste brie to begin, followed by the twice-baked egg plant or caper-cruste halibut. Don't forget the wine!

[Enrico Winery](#)

Vancouver Island's boutique winery and family vineyard located in the Cowichan Valley BC is now offering delicious food platters to accompany visitors wine tasting experiences. Home to award winning wines and friendly people, these platters are a lovely addition. [Connect and order](#) beforehand - enjoy!



Photo Credit: Enrico Winery

[The Terrace Restaurant at Monte Creek Estate Winery](#)

Taste the wine and indulge in a locally-inspired alfresco artisan menu at the Terrace restaurant. This seasonal menu showcases the best bountiful food that British Columbia has to offer. The completely glassed patio offers stunning views of the Monte Creek Ranch vineyard, South Thompson River, Lion's Head bluffs and the local wildlife! Hours and menu available [online](#).

Visit [BC Winery Restaurants](#) for a more excellent places to wine and dine in BC.

BC Wine meets yoga! *Flexibility meets flavour*

The *Wines of British Columbia* and yoga events are a popular trend and we are seeing more BCWI wineries and tour operators combining their award-winning wines with the beauty of yoga practice.

Below is a sample list of wineries and a few tour operators combining yoga experiences with BC wine. While this by no means an exhaustive list, we invite you to check back regularly.

Visit our new Flickr photo album on an ongoing basis with information on where to register, including new opportunities in 2018.



Events

[Evolve Cellars](#) (Fall, Summerland)
[Noble Ridge Vineyard & Winery](#) (Fall, Okanagan Falls)
[Okanagan Yoga & Wine Holiday](#) (Fall, Osoyoos)
[Vino & Vinyasa](#) (Fall, Summerland)
[CedarCreek Estate Winery](#) (Sold Out. Stay tuned for 2018!)
[Bench 1775 Winery](#) (Summer only. Check back in 2018!)
[House of Rose](#) (Summer only. Check back in 2018!)
[Summerhill Pyramid Winery](#) (Limited dates. Check back in 2018!)



Photo Credit: CedarCreek Estate Winery



BC Wine Events & Festivals

Find out what's happening in BC Wine Country

Some of the events happening throughout BC Wine Country this fall. Stay up-to-date by visiting WineBC.com.

SEPTEMBER

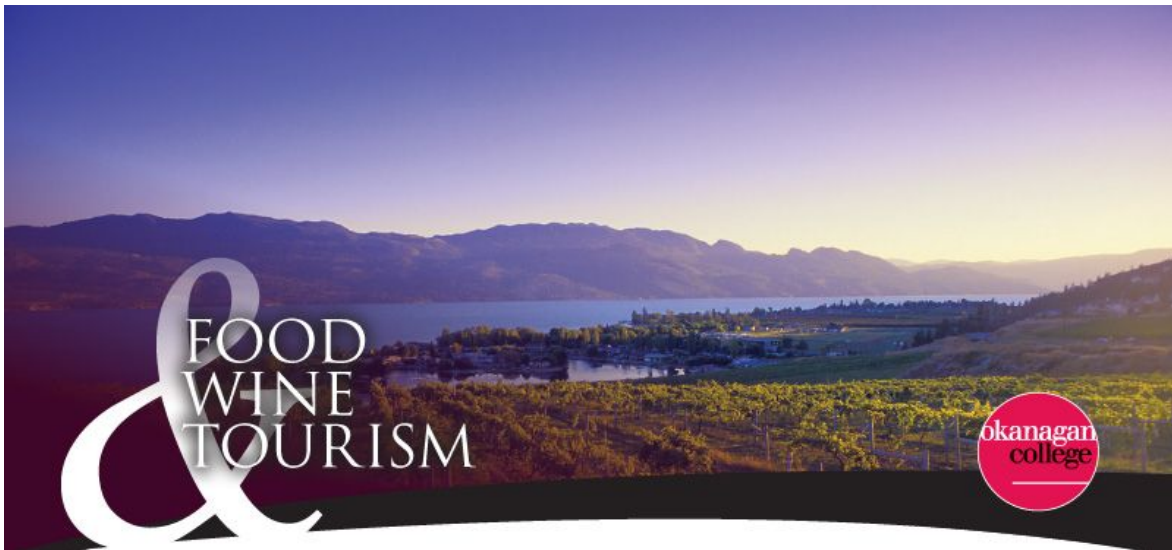
- Sept 9 [MS Bike - Okanagan Grape Escape](#) (Kelowna)
- Sept 10 [Wine & Wags Vineyard Hike](#) (Kelowna)
- Sept 10 [Yoga at Evolve Cellars](#) (Summerland)
- Sept 17 [Wine & Wags Vineyard Hike](#) (Kelowna)
- Sept 24 [Wine & Wags Vineyard Hike](#) (Kelowna)
- Sept 30 [Okanagan Fall Wine Festival](#) (Kelowna)
- Sept 30 [Pizza and Pinot](#) (Kelowna)
- Sept 30 [Nota Bene 18-Year Vertical](#) (Oliver)
- Sept 30 [Starry Plates Winemaker](#) (Kelowna)
- Sept 30 [Fall Harvest Party](#) (Kelowna)

OCTOBER

- Oct 1 [Harvest Lunch](#) (Kelowna)
- Oct 1 [Riesling Through The Ages](#) (Kelowna)
- Oct 1 [Wine & Wags Vineyard Tour](#) (Kelowna)
- Oct 3 [Red Varietals: BC vs. The World](#) (Penticton)
- Oct 6 [Fall Feast](#) (Penticton)
- Oct 7 [Ciders and Sliders](#) (Kelowna)
- Oct 7 [Harvest Dinner](#) (Penticton)
- Oct 8 [Cheersgiving](#) (Kelowna)
- Oct 28-29 [Spooktacular Candy & Wine Pairing](#) (Kelowna)

BC Wine Course Offerings

Okanagan College



Located in the heart of Okanagan wine country, the BC Wine Information Society Sensory Centre at Okanagan College's Penticton campus is the region's first educational facility of its kind.

The facility, which opened its doors in 2014, was created specifically for the sensory discovery and evaluation of wine and food. The College offers a variety of courses and programs through the Sensory Centre for students and professionals looking to expand their knowledge in the growing wine and viticulture industries, including:

Sept 30 Wine 21: Introduction to Grapes and Wine

Oct 3 [Red Varietals: BC vs. the World](#)

Nov 7 [Sensory Wine Tasting](#)

Nov 28 The Perfect Holiday Pairing

Jan 8 2018 Wine 31: [Understanding Food & Wine Pairing](#) (Kelowna Campus)

Mar 5 [Introduction to BC Wine](#)

Apr 12 [History of BC Wine](#)

For information about the Viticulture, Winery Assistant and Wine Sales Certificate programs, plus to register in our short courses, visit this [link](#) or email the College [here](#).

BC Wine. Notable News

BC wines recognized for wine and more ...





[Ten Romantic Getaways Every Woman Needs to Take with Bae](#)
Cosmopolitan Magazine

[BC wines hold their own on judgment day](#)
Business in Vancouver

[A taste of the Okanagan](#)
Castanet.net News

[British Columbia: Canada's unique, diverse, and extreme wine region](#)
The Buyer

[10 Wines That Tell The Future: Visionaries From The Okanagan Valley](#)
Cathy Huyghe - Forbes Life

[Trend toward solar power at Okanagan valley wineries](#)
Shelby Thom - Global News Okanagan

[The Creek a flagship wine for Tinhorn](#)
Anthony Gismondi - Vancouver Sun

[Confessions Of A Wine Writer: Biases Revealed, Unknown Wine Region Exposed](#)
Cathy Huyghe - Forbes Life

[Historic Penticton movie theatre transformed into urban winery](#)
Shelby Thom - Global News Okanagan

[Okanagan to Host 1st Wine and Culinary Futures Conference](#)
Business Examiner

Perfect Pairings

Full-bodied Chardonnay with Parsnip and Apple Bisque

In the Okanagan Valley, our apples are ripe for cooking and can often be found at your local grocery store. For that reason, we are featuring this easy-to-make parsnip and apple bisque.

What do you pair this warm



what do you pair this warm and satisfying dish with?

A full-bodied BC Chardonnay is the perfect choice for this creamy fall soup.



The cream and tart apples will balance the weight and crisp fruit found in the wine creating a stunning wine and food pairing.

BISQUE

Ingredients

- 1 ea onion - medium dice
- 2 ea stalks celery
- 2 ea cloves garlic
- 2 pounds parsnips - peeled, medium dice
- Vegetable stock or water (enough to cover parsnips and apples)
- 4 ea apples - peeled and quartered
- 1 ea bay leaf
- Oil to sauté (as needed)
- 4 ounces cream
- Salt and pepper (to taste)

Instructions

1. Sauté onion, garlic, celery
2. Add parsnips, sauté 1 minute
3. Add apple, stock and bay leaf
4. Bring to boil, simmer 30 minutes until parsnips and apples are soft
5. Remove bay leaf and blend until smooth

Garnishes

- Brown butter
- Little Qualicum Rathtreavor cheese short bread

RATHTREVOR SHORT BREAD

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 tablespoon icing sugar
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons chopped parsley
- 1/4 cup Rathtreavor cheese

Instructions

1. In a food processor combined flour, sugar, salt and butter. Pulse until pea shaped.
2. Add parsley and cheese. Mix until dough forms.
3. Wrap and refrigerate for 4 hours or until well chilled.
4. Cut into cubes, place cubes on a baking sheet and place in freezer for 25 minutes.
5. When frozen bake for 20 minutes at 350 degrees or until golden brown.

Perfect BC VQA Wine Pairing



Pair with Nk'Mip Cellars 2015 Chardonnay BC VQA Okanagan Valley.

Aged in french oak to produce soft, supple hints of vanilla and pear, rounding to a buttery finish.

Tasting Note

What we smell: Vanilla, hazelnut, marzipan and pear.



What we taste: pear on the palate, along with intense flavours of clove and butterscotch from the french oak aging. The wine has a lush, creamy texture with nicely structured tannins that lead to a long and elegant finish.

This wine won a gold medal in 2017 at the Okanagan Wine Festival and All Canadian Wine Championships, and a silver medal at the San Francisco Wine Awards. [Find it here.](#)

Find wine and food pairing tips on [WineBC.com](#).

Award Winning BC VQA Wine *Earning accolades around the world!*

BC VQA Wines continue to show strongly at annual wine competitions held nationally and internationally. Please note highlights from Fall 2017 competition results.

Judgment of BC (Summerland, British Columbia)



The third annual Judgment of BC, pitting 12 BC wines against 12 acknowledged global benchmarks.

BC's CheckMate Artisanal Winery Black Rook Merlot 2013 from the Okanagan Valley ranked first among the flight of Merlot. BC Pinot Gris placed third, fifth and sixth. Complete results can be found [here](#).



32nd Pacific Rim International Wine Competition (San Bernardino, California)

More than 1,000 entries were received from 200 wineries. BC VQA Wines earned 97 awards including 4 Best of Class! Congratulations to the following winners:

- Bordertown Vineyards and Estate Winery Cabernet Franc 2014 BC VQA Okanagan Valley
- Church & State Wines Quintessential 2013 BC VQA Okanagan Valley
- Monte Creek Ranch Winery Dry Riesling 2016 BC VQA British Columbia
- Sandhill Small Lots Two Sandhill Estate Vineyard 2014 BC VQA Okanagan Valley

37th All Canadian Wine Championships (Prince Edward County, Ontario)

Of the 873 entries from BC, 360 BC wines received awards and 29 wineries received double-gold honours. Locate a complete list of double gold, gold, silver and bronze winners at [BCWI](#).

34th International Wine Challenge (Tranche 2) (London, England)

Congratulations to the Meyer Family Vineyards for its gold winner Pinot Noir 2015 BC VQA Okanagan Valley.

35th Dan Berger International Wine Competition (Santa Rosa, California)

Congratulations to Red Rooster Winery for winning Gold/Best of Class for its Pinot Blanc 2015 BC VQA British Columbia.

Decanter World Wine Awards (London, UK)

Congratulations to Platinum award winner, Mission Hill Family Estate Winery, for its Terroir Collection No. 43 Reflection Point Pinot Noir 2015 BC VQA Okanagan Valley.

48th International Wine & Spirit Competition (London, England)

Ten BC VQA Wines received silver outstanding awards! For a complete list of winners, visit the [BCWI website](#).

37th San Francisco International Wine Competition (San Francisco)

Congratulations to Serendipity Winery, for the Best in Show Viognier 2016 BC VQA Okanagan Valley. Visit the [website](#) for a complete list of winner.

17th WineAlign National Wine Awards Of Canada (Wolfville, Nova Scotia)

Of the 1,700 entries from 242 wineries from eight provinces, British Columbia had the highest representation with 132 wineries entered.

Of the Top 25 Wineries in Canada, BC was recognized 14 times. In the Top Small Winery category, BC took home top spot, with six BC wineries recognized in total. BC wines earned a number of awards; 9 Platinum, 75 Gold, 293 Silver, 284 Bronze.

Link [here](#) to a complete of winners from the 2017 WineAlign National competition.

Visit us online at [WineBC.com](#).



Savour this place

WINES OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA
winebc.com

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