FEBRUARY 2021

No.30 Monthly Newsletter

Thirty Bench Wine Makers 4281 Mountainview Road Beamsville, Ontario LOR 1B2



Message from the Estate Manager

Today is a very exciting day for all of us at Thirty Bench Wine Makers as we launch our new monthly newsletter, which will contain updates on winery happenings, vineyards, winemaking, new releases, awards, staff picks and more. As a valued customer, we hope you enjoy these updates and ask you to share them with family and friends.

For those who don't know me, my name is Fiona Muckle, the Estate Manager at Thirty Bench Wine Makers. I have managed the winery since 1994 when we first opened our cellar doors to the public, but I have been involved from the very beginning. The property was purchased in 1980 by my father, Dr. Tom Muckle, and a few of his colleagues and friends. The property was originally a fruit and concord grape farm which was turned into 25 acres of Riesling vineyards. In 1999, two neighbouring properties were purchased and planted with different varietals such as Cabernet Franc and Chardonnay. In 2005, the owners decided to retire, and Thirty Bench was sold to Andrew Peller Limited.



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Vineyard Update

Winemaker Emma Garner & Vineyard Manager Wade Stark



Muckle Vineyard Riesling Vines January 15, 2021

Hello Wine Club Members,

Here is the first photo to start the 2021 growing season off. This is a Riesling vine in the Muckle Vineyard block. It is located on the 14th row from the west of Mountainview Road.

The vineyard cane was pruned 2 weeks ago and is currently at its deepest state of dormancy. Prunings can be seen on the ground and it will be mulched in the coming weeks and composted back into the soil.

Wade Stark, Vineyard Manager

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Feature Wine

Small Lot Cabernet Franc 2016



We are in our 28th year of operation and although we started out by specializing in growing Riesling grapes, our most-awarded wine at Thirty Bench is our Small Lot Cabernet Franc. Our 2015 Cabernet Franc was named Best Red Wine in the world at the 2018 Decanter World Wine Awards. Year after year this wine consistently is recognized with gold medals.

The current vintage Small Lot Cabernet Franc 2016 is deep garnet in colour with a rich aromatic bouquet of ripe black currant, black cherry, earth, vanilla, baking spice and chocolate. The wine is full-bodied and firm and notes of juicy black fruits and sweet vanilla linger on the extra-dry finish.

2006 - Gold Medal, Canadian Wine Awards and Cuvee Niagara; Best Red Wine, Cuvee Niagara
2007 - Double Gold Medal, All Canadian Wine Awards; Gold Medal, Cuvee; Best Red Wine at Cuvee
2008 - Gold Medal, Canadian Wine Awards
2012 - Gold Medal, Canadian Wine Awards
2013 - Gold Medal, LA International Wine Awards
2014 - Gold, LA International Wine Awards
2015 - Platinum, Decanter Wine Awards; Best Red
Wine in the World, Decanter Wine Awards; Gold
Medal, International Wine & Spirit Competition; Gold
Medal, WineAlign National Wine Awards
2016 - Gold Medal, InterVin International Wine

2017 – #1 Best Cabernet Franc in Canada, WineAlign

CALL THE WINERY TO ORDER at (905) 563-0352 for Current Vintage or Back Vintage bottles

FEBRUARY 2021

Upcoming Virtual Event





Discover Canada's Cabernet

Saturday, February 13 at 5 pm

Register Here

Cabernet Franc is spiking in this country, rapidly becoming Canada's Cabernet. It is particularly ascending in Niagara. In WineAlign's 2020 Guide to Canada's Best Wines, nine of the top ten scoring cab francs were from Niagara, and three of those were by winemakers working within the Andrew Peller group.

All will be revealed during this Zoom webinar with three winemakers who have been instrumental in changing the dial for cab franc: Emma Garner of Thirty Bench, Katie Dickieson of Peller Estates and Craig McDonald of Trius.

Featuring Thirty Bench Cabernet Franc 2017 presented by Winemaker Emma Garner:
94 points – Guide to Canada's Best Wines, TOP 10 Cabernet Franc #1 The Best, WineAlign 2020

IMPORTANT: The Trio case is now SOLD OUT online but the collection can still be picked up directly from Thirty Bench, Peller Estates or Trius. Call our Wine Country Concierge for more info at 1-888-510-5537.



BOOK A PRIVATE VIRTUAL TASTING WITH OUR TEAM TODAY! To reserve a virtual group tasting led by one of our wine consultants, call our Hospitality Sales team at 1-888-609-4442.