The Canadian Wine Awards 2009 Performance Report

Canada's top 20 wineries

A record 155 wineries entered the *Wine Access* 2009 Canadian Wine Awards and, in turn, submitted almost 1,000 individual wines for the judges to taste. We have put together a Performance Report that ranks the top-performing wineries from the competition — including the number one-ranked winery and winner of the coveted CWA Winery of the Year title.

A complex series of calculations lies behind the score attached to each winery in the Performance Report. In order to be considered, the winery must have submitted a minimum of six wines. We then use only the top five scoring wines from each eligible winery to calculate their overall performance. It all begins with a wine's base score (out of 100 points) and that number builds by adding points for medals awarded during the competition — be they bronze, silver or gold. Each medal's worth is based on the number of wines in the competition and the ultimate number of gold-, silver- or bronze-medal scores awarded by the judges. Gold medals are scarce at the Canadian Wine Awards and, as such, winning one leads to a substantial number of points. By taking the raw score and adding a weighted multiplier based on the medals won, we are able to calculate each winery's performance score.

The following report is a very useful list of the top-performing wineries in the competition based on their score.

More importantly, and perhaps more useful, is the list of the five highest-scoring wines that each of the wineries entered into the competition. These are the wines to seek out as you roam the aisles of wine shops or when you next visit wine country. If you are unable to track down the vintage in question, it's just as likely, at this level, that the next one will be as good — or better. *(Anthony Gismondi)*

1 SANDHILL WINES

PERFORMANCE SCORE 5,429.77

Submitted: 31 Gold: 2 Silver: 7 Bronze: 12

SANDHILL 2008 OSPREY RIDGE VINEYARD SMALL LOTS VIOGNIER
SANDHILL 2007 PHANTOM CREEK VINEYARD SMALL LOTS SYRAH
SANDHILL 2006 SANDHILL ESTATE VINEYARD SMALL LOTS TWO
SANDHILL 2006 PHANTOM CREEK VINEYARD SMALL LOTS PETIT VERDOT
SANDHILL 2007 SANDHILL ESTATE VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

2 TAWSE WINERY

PERFORMANCE SCORE 5,402.63

Submitted: 22 Gold: 2 Silver: 5 Bronze: 7

TAWSE 2007 WISMER VINEYARD CABERNET FRANC
TAWSE 2008 SKETCHES OF NIAGARA RIESLING
TAWSE 2007 VAN BERS VINEYARD CABERNET FRANC
TAWSE 2007 QUARRY ROAD CHARDONNAY
TAWSE 2007 PINOT NOIR

3 THIRTY BENCH WINE MAKERS

PERFORMANCE SCORE 5,270.80

Submitted: 10 Gold: 2 Silver: 2 Bronze: 4

THIRTY BENCH WINE MAKERS 2008 STEEL POST VINEYARD SMALL LOT RIESLING
THIRTY BENCH WINE MAKERS 2007 SMALL LOT CHARDONNAY
THIRTY BENCH WINE MAKERS 2008 TRIANGLE VINEYARD SMALL LOT RIESLING
THIRTY BENCH WINE MAKERS 2007 RED
THIRTY BENCH WINE MAKERS 2008 THIRTY BENCH VINEYARD RIESLING

4 HILLEBRAND WINERY

PERFORMANCE SCORE 5,165.93

Submitted: 10 Gold: 2 Silver: 1 Bronze: 5

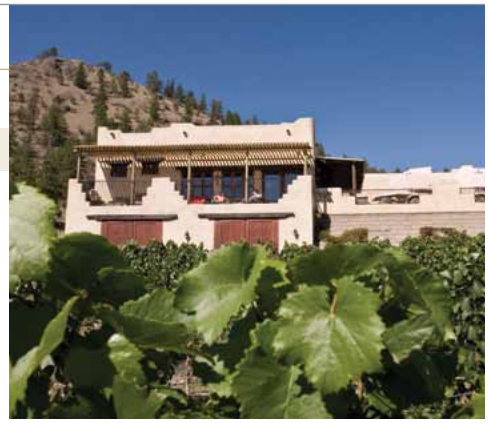
HILLEBRAND WINERY 2007 OLIVEIRA VINEYARD SHOWCASE CHARDONNAY
HILLEBRAND WINERY N/V TRIUS BRUT
HILLEBRAND WINERY 2008 ARTIST SERIES LIMITED EDITION SAUVIGNON BLANC
HILLEBRAND WINERY 2008 GHOST CREEK VINEYARD SHOWCASE RIESLING
HILLEBRAND WINERY 2008 ARTIST SERIES LIMITED EDITION PINOT GRIS

5 THORNHAVEN ESTATES WINERY

PERFORMANCE SCORE 4,775.34

Submitted: 9 Gold: 2 Silver: 0 Bronze: 2

THORNHAVEN ESTATES 2008 JACKSON HEIGHTS PINOT GRIS
THORNHAVEN ESTATES 2008 GEWÜRZTRAMINER
THORNHAVEN ESTATES 2007 PINOT NOIR
THORNHAVEN ESTATES 2008 ROSÉ
THORNHAVEN ESTATES 2008 SAUVIGON BLANC/CHARDONNAY



6 ROAD 13 VINEYARDS

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,623.39

Submitted: 16 Gold: 1 Silver: 4 Bronze: 7

ROAD 13 2008 VIOGNIER ROUSSANNE MARSANNE
ROAD 13 2006 CABERNET SAUVIGNON
ROAD 13 2008 HONEST JOHN'S WHITE
ROAD 13 2007 JACKPOT SYRAH
ROAD 13 2007 JACKPOT PINOT NOIR

7 JACKSON-TRIGGS OKANAGAN ESTATE

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,616.43

Submitted: 20 Gold: 1 Silver: 4 Bronze: 10

JACKSON-TRIGGS OKANAGAN 2007 PROPRIETORS' GRAND RESERVE RIESLING ICEWINE
JACKSON-TRIGGS OKANAGAN 2008 PROPRIETORS' GRAND RESERVE SAUVIGNON BLANC
JACKSON-TRIGGS OKANAGAN 2006 PROPRIETORS' GRAND RESERVE SHIRAZ
JACKSON-TRIGGS OKANAGAN 2006 SUNROCK VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON
JACKSON-TRIGGS OKANAGAN 2007 SUNROCK VINEYARD MERITAGE

8 INNISKILLIN WINES ONTARIO

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,598.64

Submitted: 18 Gold: 1 Silver: 4 Bronze: 5

INNISKILLIN ONTARIO 2007 SPARKLING VIDAL ICEWINE
INNISKILLIN ONTARIO 2007 RESERVE SERIES CABERNET FRANC
INNISKILLIN ONTARIO 2007 CABERNET FRANC ICEWINE
INNISKILLIN ONTARIO 2008 WINEMAKER'S SERIES TWO VINEYARDS RIESLING
INNISKILLIN ONTARIO 2008 WINEMAKER'S SERIES BARREL AGED PINOT GRIS

9 BURROWING OWL ESTATE WINERY

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,592.85

Submitted: 8 Gold: 1 Silver: 4 Bronze: 2

BURROWING OWL 2007 CABERNET FRANC
BURROWING OWL 2008 PINOT GRIS
BURROWING OWL 2007 SYRAH
BURROWING OWL 2006 MERITAGE
BURROWING OWL 2007 MERLOT

10 FIELDING ESTATE WINERY

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,538.70

Submitted: 13 Gold: 1 Silver: 3 Bronze: 2

FIELDING ESTATE 2007 MERITAGE
FIELDING ESTATE 2007 MERLOT
FIELDING ESTATE 2007 SYRAH
FIELDING ESTATE 2008 PINOT GRIS
FIELDING ESTATE 2008 FIELDING VINEYARD LOT NO. 17 RIESLING

11 PENTÂGE WINERY

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,518.72

Submitted: 12 Gold: 1 Silver: 3 Bronze: 4

PENTÂGE WINERY 2008 GEWÜRZTRAMINER
PENTÂGE WINERY 2008 SLOW VINEYARDS LATE HARVEST
PENTÂGE WINERY 2008 PINOT GRIS
PENTÂGE WINERY 2008 CHENIN BLANC
PENTÂGE WINERY 2008 CHARDONNAY MUSQUE

12 QUAILS' GATE ESTATE WINERY

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,465.82

Submitted: 21 Gold: 1 Silver: 2 Bronze: 8

QUAILS' GATE 2007 STEWART FAMILY RESERVE CHARDONNAY
QUAILS' GATE 2006 OLD VINES FOCH RESERVE
QUAILS' GATE 2008 DRY RIESLING
QUAILS' GATE 2008 CHASSELAS PINOT BLANC PINOT GRIS
QUAILS' GATE 2006 OLD VINES FOCH

13 SEE YA LATER RANCH

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,448.86

Submitted: 12 Gold: 1 Silver: 2 Bronze: 6

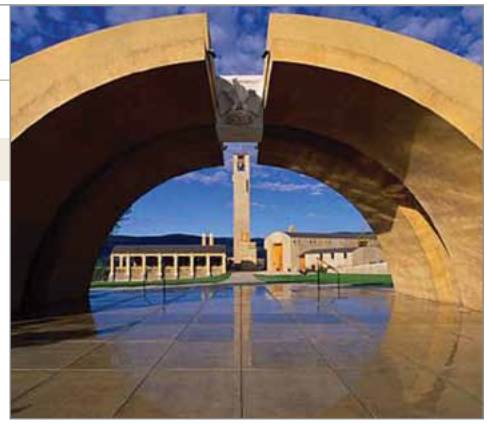
SEE YA LATER RANCH 2007 ROVER
SEE YA LATER RANCH 2007 PINOT NOIR
SEE YA LATER RANCH 2008 GEWÜRZTRAMINER
SEE YA LATER RANCH 2007 SÉMILLON
SEE YA LATER RANCH 2008 PINOT GRIS

14 MISSION HILL FAMILY ESTATE WINERY

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,444.56

Submitted: 12 Gold: 1 Silver: 2 Bronze: 6

MISSION HILL 2006 COMPENDIUM
MISSION HILL 2008 FIVE VINEYARDS PINOT BLANC
MISSION HILL 2007 RESERVE CHARDONNAY
MISSION HILL 2008 FIVE VINEYARDS PINOT GRIGIO
MISSION HILL 2008 RESERVE SAUVIGNON BLANC



15 JACKSON-TRIGGS NIAGARA ESTATE

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,393.38

Submitted: 14 Gold: 1 Silver: 1 Bronze: 5

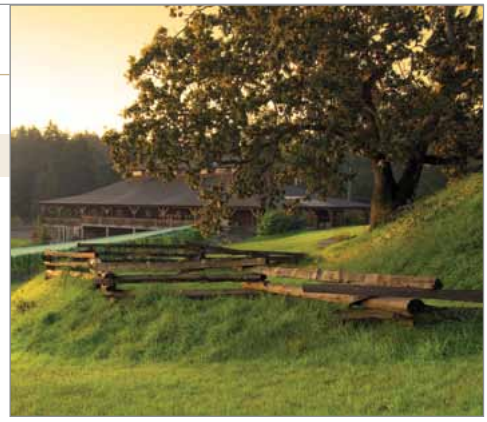
JACKSON-TRIGGS NIAGARA 2007 PROPRIETORS' GRAND RESERVE CABERNET FRANC ICEWINE
JACKSON-TRIGGS NIAGARA 2008 PROPRIETORS' RESERVE SAUVIGNON BLANC
JACKSON-TRIGGS NIAGARA 2007 PROPRIETORS' GRAND RESERVE CHARDONNAY
JACKSON-TRIGGS NIAGARA 2007 DELAINE VINEYARD SAUVIGNON BLANC
JACKSON-TRIGGS NIAGARA 2007 DELAINE VINEYARD RIESLING ICEWINE

16 CHURCH & STATE WINES

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,379.69

Submitted: 9 Gold: 1 Silver: 1 Bronze: 5

CHURCH & STATE 2007 HOLLENBACH FAMILY VINEYARD PINOT NOIR
CHURCH & STATE 2007 MERLOT
CHURCH & STATE 2005 QUINTESSENTIAL
CHURCH & STATE 2008 PINOT GRIS
CHURCH & STATE 2007 COYOTE BOWL SYRAH



17 HIDDEN BENCH VINEYARDS AND WINERY

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,283.89

Submitted: 8 Gold: 1 Silver: 2 Bronze: 2

HIDDEN BENCH 2007 ROSOMEL VINEYARD ROMAN'S BLOCK RIESLING
HIDDEN BENCH 2008 ROSOMEL VINEYARD NUIT BLANCHE
HIDDEN BENCH 2007 FELSECK VINEYARD PINOT NOIR
HIDDEN BENCH 2007 LOCUST LANE VINEYARD SYRAH
HIDDEN BENCH 2007 ESTATE PINOT NOIR

18 STAG'S HOLLOW WINERY

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,129.38

Submitted: 6 Gold: 1 Silver: 0 Bronze: 4

STAG'S HOLLOW 2008 SAUVIGNON BLANC/SÉMILLON
STAG'S HOLLOW 2007 CABERNET SAUVIGNON
STAG'S HOLLOW 2008 SYRAH
STAG'S HOLLOW 2006 ESTATE MERLOT
STAG'S HOLLOW 2006 HERITAGE BLOCK 1

19 COYOTE'S RUN ESTATE WINERY

PERFORMANCE SCORE 3,061.70

Submitted: 10 Gold: 1 Silver: 1 Bronze: 2

COYOTE'S RUN 2007 RIESLING ICEWINE
COYOTE'S RUN 2007 MERITAGE
COYOTE'S RUN 2007 CABERNET
COYOTE'S RUN 2008 BLACK PAW VINEYARD CHARDONNAY
COYOTE'S RUN 2008 PINOT GRIS PINOT BLANC

20 NK'MIP CELLARS

PERFORMANCE SCORE 1,810.06

Submitted: 17 Gold: 0 Silver: 4 Bronze: 9

NK'MIP CELLARS 2006 QWAM QWMT CABERNET SAUVIGNON
NK'MIP CELLARS 2006 QWAM QWMT SYRAH
NK'MIP CELLARS 2006 QWAM QWMT MERITAGE
NK'MIP CELLARS 2007 PINOT NOIR
NK'MIP CELLARS 2007 QWAM QWMT MERITAGE