A fine bottle of wine is like a wonderful road trip. It has a beginning, an end and the adventure of discovery in between. This guide is the start of a journey that will take you through some of the most spectacular scenery you’ll ever see, to some of the finest wines you’ll ever taste. The Wines of British Columbia share centre stage with the best in the world. Grapegrowers in five official Designated Viticultural Areas and many emerging regions are taking advantage of exceptional climate and soil conditions to bring local character to the traditions of the past. They invite you to explore and sample the vintners’ art in some of the most beautiful country on earth; along roads that reveal spectacular scenes around every corner. The best way to enjoy and experience our vineyard treasures is on a leisurely tour of the places they call home. This guide and an adventurous palate will prepare you for a truly memorable taste and experience.
EXPLORE ALL FIVE BC WINE REGIONS

VANCOUVER ISLAND
- Black Creek
- Courtenay/Comox
- Alberni Valley
- Parksville
- Nanaimo
- Cowichan Valley
- Saanich Peninsula
- Victoria
- Sooke

GULF ISLANDS
- Gabriola Island
- Thetis Island
- Salt Spring Island
- Pender Island
- Saturna Island
- Denman Island
- Hornby Island
- Quadra Island

FRASER VALLEY
- Sechelt
- Britannia Beach
- Vancouver
- Richmond
- Delta
- New Westminster
- Surrey
- Pitt Meadows
- Langley
- Abbotsford/Aldergrove
- Dewdney
- Chilliwack

OKANAGAN VALLEY
- Lake Country/Okanagan Centre
- Kelowna
- West Kelowna
- Peachland
- Summerland
- Naramata
- Penticton
- Kaleden
- Okanagan Falls
- Oliver (includes Golden Mile)
- Osoyoos

SIMILKAMEEN VALLEY
- Keremeos
- Cawston

EMERGING REGIONS
- Northern BC
- Lillooet
- Nicola Valley
- Thompson Valley
- Shuswap
- North Okanagan
- Kootenays

CANADA
- British Columbia

UNITED STATES
- Alaska

Pacific Ocean
Your short and scenic ferry trip to this island of history and romance may be accompanied by magnificent orcas, playful otters and mischievous gulls. The destination is a rugged, unspoiled part of Canada and the home of a new breed of winemakers. The typical Island winery is a family-based operation, displaying a passion for turning grapes into good times. The inland Cowichan Valley and southeastern Saanich Peninsula provide a variety of conditions perfect for experimentation and the growing and nurturing of an eclectic array of sought-after labels.

Look for varietals including Ortega, Pinot Gris, Maréchal Foch and Pinot Noir.
Their names read like wine labels: Salt Spring, Thetis, Saturna, Quadra, Hornby and so on. British Columbia’s Gulf Islands lie in the Strait of Georgia, which separates Vancouver Island from the mainland, connected by a network of small ferries. The residents reflect a simpler time, when help was as near as a neighbour; likely one with an unopened bottle and corkscrew. This timeless attitude carries over to the unique varietals of the region: wines that appeal more to the palate than to pretence. This wine-producing region brings traditional values and passion to the shared pleasures of fine wines and good friends. Look for varietals including Ortega, Zweigelt, Pinot Gris and Pinot Noir.
The Fraser Valley is Vancouver’s backyard; a rural paradise stretching for over 150 kilometres from the west coast and one of the world’s most spectacular cities. The Valley offers an unforgettable look into a thriving agricultural community.

Over half of the province’s agricultural activity is centred here and includes vineyards dedicated to some of the most popular and acclaimed wine labels. In the time since the first Fraser Valley winery opened in 1991, local growers have developed and nurtured a region especially suited to early-ripening varietals.

Look for varietals including Pinot Noir, Bacchus, Pinot Gris, Siegerrebe and Madeleine Angevine.

HERE’S TO THE RURAL LIFE

TURN TO PAGE 13 FOR MAP
The Coastal and Monashee mountain ranges shelter the Okanagan Valley from wet weather and create hot, dry summers. Long daylight hours prolong photosynthesis and late ripening while gentle winds and the magnificent Okanagan Lake moderate winter temperatures. The roads connecting the laid-back cities and towns in the area are as full of pleasant surprises as the wines they bring you to, from vintners who respect tradition without blindly following it. The Okanagan Valley is an ever-changing panorama stretching over 250 kilometres across 11 distinct sub-regions, each with different soil and climate conditions suited to a growing range of varietals.

Look for a wide range of varietals, from Pinot and Chardonnay to Syrah and Zinfandel.
The spectacular Similkameen Valley is bordered by steep mountains extending from west of the Okanagan Valley to the United States border. Back in the 1800s, the river running through it gave up gold to eager prospectors. Today, the Valley’s treasure is found in fertile land and a climate perfect for the production of wines as fine as any in the world. The Cathedral Mountains hold the daytime heat and temper the coolness that descends with the night. Exceptional varietals are nurtured by rich gravel and silt loam formed from glacial rock. Look for varietals including Merlot, Gamay Noir, Cabernet Franc and Chardonnay along with some very fine Rieslings and Gewürztraminers.
LOOK  Tip the glass and take a moment before you smell. As they age, red wines display hints of reddish-brown at the edges and whites become more golden, contributing to a fuller taste.

SMELL  The nose knows. The tongue can only detect four flavours, while the nose can distinguish among thousands. Gently swirl the wine in its glass to vaporize the alcohol and release the aroma of the wine. What do you smell? Sage, clover, apricot, plum or blueberries?

TASTE  The tip of the tongue senses sweetness; the back, bitterness; and the sides detect acidity. Take a small amount of the wine in your mouth and swirl it around to taste the complexity of its character. Are you still tasting it ten seconds later? Did the taste change?

FEEL  This is the touch of the wine on your tongue. Is it rich, full, lean or bubbly? Does it tingle at the edges? Tannins, for example, feel dry on the tongue; like black tea or biting into a grape seed.

SPIT  The more you spit, the more you can sip and sample. And it’s the perfectly proper thing to do. It’s also appropriate to pour the rest of the glass into the bucket the winery provides.

CLEANSE  A couple of crackers or a splash of water will cleanse the palate and clear the way for your next experience.

KEEP A LOOKOUT FOR THE FOUR AROMAS AND FLAVOURS OF BC WINES

SIP TIPS

CAREFUL  Wine and winding roads don’t go together. All that tasting can add up to trouble. If your hand is holding the glass, make sure a designated driver is holding the wheel.

CALL  Book in advance for tours and tastings, especially if you’re travelling in a group of eight or more. Some wineries are seasonal and others have irregular hours, but they all want you to enjoy your visit.

COOL  Wine spoils in a hot trunk. Bring along a cooler to make sure the wine you like at the tasting is the wine you take home.

EAT  Many wineries have restaurants – take advantage of one to enjoy a spectacular meal. If you’re more of a do-it-yourself type, bring along a picnic lunch. Some wineries have picnic areas – buy a bottle of wine and enjoy the view.
Two great rewards in life are the sharing of a bottle of fine wine and the discovery of new sights along an open road. Each is a pleasure unto its own. Please don’t drink and drive.

Wineries may close seasonally, and restaurant and tasting hours may vary; it is best to confirm operating hours to avoid disappointment.

For information on routes, fares and schedules to/from Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands, visit bcferries.com.

LEGEND

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
RESTAURANT
ACCOMMODATION

Winery routes may close seasonally, and restaurant and tasting hours may vary; it is best to confirm operating hours to avoid disappointment.
For information on routes, fares and schedules to/from Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands, visit bcferries.com.

Winery may close seasonally, and restaurant and tasting hours may vary; it is best to confirm operating hours to avoid disappointment.
SECHELT
1. SUNSHINE COAST WINERY
5245 Selma Park Rd, Sechelt, BC
V0N 3A1 | 604.200.8796
sunshinecoastwinery.com

BRITANNIA BEACH
2. BRITANNIA BEACH CIDERWORKS
16 Frontage Rd, Britannia Beach, BC
V0N 1J0 | 778.229.5082
bbciderworks.com

VANCOUVER
3. VANCOUVER URBAN WINERY
55 Dunlevy Ave, Vancouver, BC
V6A 3A3 | 604.566.9463
vancouverurbanwinery.com

RICHMOND
4. ISABELLA WINERY
11431 River Rd, Richmond, BC
V6X 1A6 | 604.288.0608
isabellawinery.com

LANGLEY
5. VISTA D’ORO FARMS & WINERY
346 - 208 St, Langley, BC
V2Z 1T6 | 604.514.3539
vistadoro.com

NEW WESTMINSTER
6. PACIFIC BREEZE WINERY
6 - 320 Stewardson Way
New Westminster, BC
V3M 6C1 | 604.522.2228
pacificbreezewinery.com

SURREY
7. CENTRAL CITY WINERY
11411 Bridgeview Dr, Surrey, BC
V3R 0C2 | 604.568.2337
centralcitybrewing.com

ABBOTSFORD/ALDERGROVE
24. KRAUSE BERRY FARMS AND ESTATE WINERY
6179 - 248 St, Langley, BC
V4W 1J3 | 604.856.577
krauseberryfarms.com

25. THE FORT LANGLEY WINE CO.
26151 - 24 Ave, Langley, BC
V3M 3M6 | 604.857.1101
thefortwineco.com

 STATES
OKANAGAN VALLEY OVERVIEW

To make your trip planning easier, this map shows the entire Okanagan Valley. The following pages contain more detailed maps of the various communities throughout the Valley, organized from north to south.
Wineries may close seasonally, and restaurant and tasting hours may vary; it is best to confirm operating hours to avoid disappointment.

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Two great rewards in life are the sharing of a bottle of fine wine and the discovery of new sights along an open road. Each is a pleasure unto its own. Please don’t drink and drive.
Soil. Sun. Sagebrush. The sights, sounds and smells of the Golden Mile Bench stimulate the senses as well as the palate. The many unique features of British Columbia's first official sub-region combine to create exceptional growing conditions for wine grapes. Nurtured by world-class winemakers, the wines of this distinctive region are gaining an international reputation for exceptional quality and a taste that is uniquely BC. Only wines from grapes grown exclusively on this arid bench can claim the Golden Mile appellation.
Two great rewards in life are the sharing of a bottle of fine wine and the discovery of new sights along an open road. Each is a pleasure unto its own. Please don’t drink and drive.
Wineries may close seasonally, and restaurant and tasting hours may vary; it is best to confirm operating hours to avoid disappointment.
WINERY SIGNS  Get to any British Columbia winery by following the wine route signs. If you lose your way, keep your eyes open for the signs and you'll get back on track.

Check the Trip Planner at WineBC.com for detailed directions.

VISITOR CENTRES  More than 100 British Columbia communities operate Visitor Centres to provide information, assistance and advice on attractions and events along various routes in their areas. HelloBC.com/visitorcentres.

British Columbia’s roads pass through some of the most beautiful country and exciting and endearing cities and towns in the world. For the latest road conditions and detours to help make your trip through the province’s magnificent scenery worry free visit drivebc.ca or call toll free at 1.800.550.HWYS(4997).

#EXPLOREBC  Find the resources, trip ideas and travel tips to explore British Columbia at ExploreBC.ca and be sure to share your experiences by using #ExploreBC on social media.

BC VQA  Your assurance that the wine you’re buying is made from 100% BC grapes. BC VQA–certified wines are also tasted by a qualified panel to ensure characteristics worthy of the designation. Look for BC VQA on the label, it guarantees 100% BC.

OTHER BRITISH COLUMBIA WINE ASSOCIATIONS  Before you visit the vineyards of British Columbia, pour a glass and prime your palate with a visit to these informative and inspiring websites:

Bottlenecks Drive
Campbell Valley Wine Route
Kamloops Wine Trail
Kelowna FabFive Wineries
Kelowna Wine Trails
The Lake Country Scenic Sip
Lakeshore Wine Route
Naramata Bench Winery Association
Okanagan Falls Winery Association
Oliver Osoyoos Wine Country
Similkameen Wineries Association
The Westside Wine Trail
Wine Islands Vintners Association
bottleneckdrive.com
cvwineroute.com
kamloopswinetrail.com
kelownafabfive.ca
tourismkelowna.com/do/wine
scenicsip.ca
lakeshorewineries.ca
naramatabench.com
ofwa.ca
oliverosoyoos.com
similkameenwine.com
thewestsidewinetrail.com
wineislands.ca
There are a wide array of events celebrating our world-class wines on their own, or more often paired with our fabulous cuisines. For a comprehensive list, visit WineBC.com and HelloBC.com, and see the list below for specific events.

ChefmeetsBCGrape  
Cornucopia – Whistler’s Celebration of Food & Wine  
Cowichan Wine & Culinary Festival  
Dine Around & Stay in Town Victoria  
Dine Around Thompson Okanagan  
Dine Out Vancouver Festival  
Eat! Vancouver Food + Cooking Festival  
Okanagan Wine Festivals: Spring, Fall, Winter  
Taste Victoria  
Tofino Food & Wine Festival  
Vancouver International Wine Festival

WineBC.com  
whistlercornucopia.com  
wineislands.ca/events/cowichan-wine-culinary-festival  
tourismvictoria.com/events/dinearound  
okwineanddine.ca  
dineoutvancouver.com  
eat-vancouver.com  
thewinefestivals.com  
victoriataste.com  
tofinofoodandwinefestival.com  
vanwinefest.ca

BC VQA wines can be found at your local wine retailer; for more information visit WineBC.com. Or download the free BC Liquor Stores app for your iPhone or Android, or use the mobile friendly site at m.bcliquorstores.com.
To find out everything you need to know about the Wines of British Columbia, visit WineBC.com

To plan your ideal BC wine vacation, including where to go, what to see and do, and where to stay, visit HelloBC.com

The Wine Regions of British Columbia continue to flourish and grow; therefore, the information contained in this guide is up to date to March 2016 at time of printing.

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