2017 QUICK FACTS

sponsors@vanwinefest.ca



39th Vancouver International Wine Festival – February 11-19, 2017

2017 Quick Facts

- 39th annual (founded 1979)
- 8 days (Bacchanalia Gala, Feb 11; festival, Feb 13-19)
- ~ 25,000 admissions (24,783 in 2016; 99% of tickets sold)
- 16 countries, 180 wineries
- 54 events at ~25 venues
- ~ 50 participating restaurants, hotels, caterers
- 1,700 wines projected, including
 - ~ 780 at International Festival Tastings
 - ~ 170 additional wines at Trade Tastings
 - ~ 750 wines at special events (dinners, seminars, etc)
- 42,000 bottles poured and/or purchased*
- 82,000 wine glasses used*
- 2017 theme: The Wine World Celebrates Canada with 76 wineries, ~300 wines from BC, ON, NS (Italia! in 2016, 60 wineries and 240 wines)
- Beneficiary: Our partner since 2012 is Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival; net \$235,000 was raised in 2016.
 Since inception as a fundraiser for the Playhouse Theatre Co, \$8.7 million has been raised for the performing arts
- Next year's dates: February 24-March 4, 2018

Buy tickets

- VanWineFest.ca
- Box office 604-873-3311 Toll free at 1-877-321-3121

Snapshot – Vancouver International Wine Festival is Canada's premier wine show and widely considered to be the best wine event in North America. With ~25,000 admissions and at 39 years of age, it is one of the biggest and oldest wine events in the world. Its slogan is "**The Wine World is Here**".

The festival, including the 14-event Trade Days Conference, has been voted the "#1 Food, Wine & Hospitality Event in Canada" the last four years in a row by New York's BizBash.

Vancouver has a highly developed, educated wine market that is considered by many to be several years ahead of North American wine trends. Wine writer **Anthony Gismondi** says, "The interaction [at VanWineFest] between the consumers and the producers is responsible for the strong wine culture [here]."

The heart of the festival is the **Tasting Room**, where the public can choose from ~780 wines at four International Festival Tastings, and industry professionals can sample those plus an additional ~170 wines at two Trade Tastings. There are ~50 special events that orbit the tasting room (seminars, vintage tastings, winery dinners, lunches, brunches, wine minglers and more) at which ~750 other wines are served.

This international festival typically serves wines from ~15 countries. There is a focus on a different region or country every year; the featured theme region has its own section in the tasting room and offers thematic seminars and food and wine pairings throughout the week. For 2017, **Canada** is the theme, in celebration of our country's 150th birthday.

Where is it?

The festival is headquartered at the **Vancouver Convention Centre** downtown. The tasting room, most seminars and trade events take place at VCC. Other special events (dinners, lunches, brunches, wine minglers and the Bacchanalia Gala) take place at some 25 venues all around the city, including many of the city's top restaurants and hotels.

Demographics*

Ages (Average age 38)

- 19 to 24 3.5%
- 25 to 34 23%
- 35 to 44 23%
- 45 to 54 24.3%
- 55 to 64 18.6%
- 65+ 7.5%

Gender

- Men, 46%
- Women, 54%

Household income

- **\$200,000+ 12.7%**
- \$151,000 to \$200,000 15.3%
- \$100,000 to \$150,000 31.2%
- \$76,000 to \$100,000 18.9%
- \$51,000 to \$75,000 − 13.8%
- \$50,000 and under 8.1%

Education

- University degree 57%; some university 11%
- College degree 12%; some college 13%
- High school and other 7%

*Data from 1,900+ respondents via 2014 onsite and 2015 online surveys

Festivalgoer profile

- The typical festivalgoer is a sociable, affluent, wineand-food savvy professional with high disposable income; spends av. \$3,984/yr dining out incl. wine plus spends av. \$2,291/yr on wine at home
- 65% have attended two+ years
- ~80% are from Metro Vancouver

Festival publications & communication assets

- Website 160,000 unique visitors annually
- Promotional brochure 12,000 printed
- Trade brochure 3,000 printed
- E-news 8,000 subscribers, which includes 2,000 trade subscribers; ~ 25+ e-news annually
- Tasting Program 10,000 printed, 64 pages
- Festival app (iOS and Android) 2,440 installations
- Social media: Twitter 11,800+ followers, 291K impressions; Facebook 3,650+ likes, 275K reach; Instagram ~750 followers; new & growing
- \$400,000 marketing ad campaign includes the Vancouver Sun; Decanter magazine; Vancouver, Western Living and BCBusiness magazines; News 1130 radio; WineAlign.com.
- Earned media: 71 million impressions (editorial coverage in print, digital, TV and radio), per MRP
- * Ads, logos and editorial content in festival communication assets are available exclusively to sponsors, with the exception of the Tasting Program, which accepts ads for products non-competitive with major sponsors.

What's the big deal?

Vine stars – the rock stars of the wine world come to Vancouver for VanWineFest. As a condition of participation, every winery must have a winery principal (winemaker, owner, senior executive) present in the tasting room and at special events.

Stove stars – the rock stars of BC's vibrant culinary scene are here too. More than 50 of the province's most celebrated restaurants and chefs, hotels, caterers and food suppliers participate.