



# TASTE THE WORLD

## International Festival Tasting

- February 16, 17, 18**
- Vancouver Convention Centre**
- 7-10 p.m. (Thursday & Friday), 2:30-5 p.m. (Saturday Matinee)**
- \$79-\$95, all inclusive. Add \$10 day-of (if tickets are available)**

**The Wine World is Here** for the 39th Vancouver International Wine Festival. A tour of the Tasting Room invites you to choose from 780+ wines from 16 countries. Decisions, decisions! Begin with a visit to featured country **Canada (happy birthday to us!)** where 76 wineries from Nova Scotia, Ontario and, of course, British Columbia are serving their best drops. Then choose from 104 wineries representing **15 other countries** including **20 from Italy, 22 from USA, 16 from France**, and up to 10 from each **Australia, Spain, Chile, Argentina, and more**. Did we mention **Uruguay**? And **Turkey**? And many more. About a quarter of participating wineries are festival first-timers.

# TASTE ACROSS CANADA

## Celebrating Canada's 150th

- Saturday, February 18**
- Vancouver Convention Centre**
- 12-2 p.m.**
- \$109 all-inclusive**

**Canada struts its stuff** at this amazing grazing lunch, all with to-die-for views of the ocean and mountains with tunes by Lesismore. The food stations offer 17 items on a coast to coast menu that includes wild prawns, oysters, bison tataki, prosciutto, pork sliders and more. To say nothing of the Nanaimo bars. And all 76 Canadian wineries from three provinces are on hand, with their charming vine stars each pouring two wines. That's 152 wines. With lunch! You may need a nap ...



# TASTING ROOM TIPS

Coming to the International Festival Tasting on Thursday, Friday or Saturday? Here are some tips (with special thanks to wine educator **DJ Kearney - @djwines**).

- Have a meal first.** If you have a meal first, you'll have more quality time with the wines. Remember this is a wine tasting, not a dinner event. Some food is served in the Tasting Room (do drop by the **Sysco Vancouver** booth for delicious chef-created dishes, and **Nesters Market** for charcuterie, cheeses and more, among other samples).
- Have a plan of attack.** Consult your Tasting Room Program, which is online at [VanWineFest.ca](http://VanWineFest.ca), or pick it up onsite. It's a big room with 780+ wines on offer. Be strategic.
- Keep your profile lean.** Check your big puffy coat and if you must bring a shoulder bag, make it a small one. You'll have more room to move around and so will everyone else. Use the VanWineFest app (iOS and Android platforms) to make notes and track your favourites. Use your smartphone to take photos of wines you enjoy.
- Leave fragrances at home.** Scents from perfume, aftershave or even hand lotion can interfere with your (and others!) enjoyment of the wines.
- Wear dark colours.** Dark colours will be your friend if wine is dripped or spilled on you.
- High heels are not your friend.** There are 180 wineries in the room. Wear flats. Your feet will thank you.
- Swirl, sniff, sip and then spit.** Yes, spit (or dump out) the contents of your glass. That's what all the pros do. Wineries will not be offended. It's how you get to enjoy lots and lots of wines.
- Talk to the vine stars.** It's a VanWineFest hallmark that each winery brings a winemaker, owner or senior exec to Vancouver. Vine stars are the ones wearing royal blue lanyards. Talk to them and you'll learn history, background and enhance your enjoyment of the wine. It's a very special festival because important people are here.
- BC Liquor Stores onsite wine shop.** All wines served at International Festival Tastings are on sale at the onsite BCLS store. It's one of the best things about this festival. Shop as you go (don't wait to the end as they might be sold out) and put your favourites in the Bottle Check. Best yet, the wine – whether you buy one bottle or 100 – can be shipped for free to the BC Liquor Store nearest you. A Tasting Room ticket is required to shop the wine shop.
- Don't Wine and Drive.** Plan a safe ride home. And if you're on transit, pick up a free transit pass at the Get Home Safe booth as you exit the Tasting Room. Or take a taxi, limo or stay at a hotel. Just Don't Wine and Drive.

### TASTE & ENJOY AT THESE BOOTHS



**BUY TICKETS**  
VanWineFest.ca  
604.873.3311 | 1.877.321.3121  
(Weekdays 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.)



## DON'T WINE AND DRIVE

- Leave the wheels at home
- Get a free transit ticket from Get Home Safe booth
  - Assign a designated driver
    - Take a cab or limo
- Book a downtown hotel with [beVancouver.com](http://beVancouver.com)

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180 WINERIES

1700 WINES

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