

CAVE SPRING

VINEYARD

Reviews & Accolades

01.2021



REVIEWS & ACCOLADES 01.2021

WINE ENTHUSIAST

2018 Riesling, Niagara Peninsula – 91***Top 100 Wines of 2020 Selection | Cellar Selection***

Balance is the watchword for this wine, reaching across the dynamic tension between the residual fruit sugar and the searing acidity. In the mix are tangy flavors of apple, white melon, lemon and tangerine.

– Paul Gregutt (12/20)

Wine & Spirits

2018 Riesling Estate, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 93***Top 100 Best Buys of 2020 Selection***

The July heat and August thunderstorms made 2018 a tricky vintage in Ontario, further challenged by heavy rain in October. Yet winemaker Angelo Pavan took advantage of the intervening sunny days to coax a firm, full-bodied Riesling out of Cave Spring's estate vineyard, a parcel that climbs the slope beneath the Niagara Escarpment. The vines – the oldest planted 40 years ago – grow in a stony mix of clay, limestone and sandstone, with some shale, granite and gneiss in the mix; the wine tastes as if their roots literally sucked up the stone, it's so resolutely earthy and firm. Notes of lime zest and sour lemon add a bracing brightness to the austere mineral flavours, while the wine's extract gives it a rich texture and grip. This is a Riesling for the main course – lake trout wrapped in bacon would be ideal.

– Tara Q. Thomas (12/20)

TORONTO STAR

2017 Riesling Indian Summer, Lincoln Lakeshore, Estate Grown – 94

And we all know Ontario is well known for its icewine. But a less succulent style that's easier on the pocketbook is "Late Harvest." Snap up the brilliant 2017 Cave Spring Indian Summer Select Late Harvest Riesling. The fragrance of stovetop marmalade and orange blossoms is echoed on the palate, then fans out with a sun-drenched peach, honey, praline and touch of cream. Each sip is shot through with racy acidity for optimal balance, so it finishes cleanly and dry. Just such a delightful dessert wine!

– Carolyn Evans Hammond (12/20)

vineroutes
NAVIGATING THE WORLD OF WINE**Ontario's Top 20 Wineries of 2020*****Cave Spring Vineyard***

Sustainably focused with a consistent quality track record, their Rieslings are some of the best you'll come across in the country, but that's not all they're known for. You'll find that they also craft some excellent Cabernet Franc, Pinot Noir and Chardonnay.

– Carmelo Giardina (12/20)

REVIEWS & ACCOLADES....

**2018 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 94*****Guide to Canada's Best Wines 2020 | Top Riesling | Top Value***

It is no surprise that the CSV Riesling from Cave Spring took the top position, but it is good to know that there is consistency in this iconic Niagara Riesling resulting from some of the oldest Riesling vines in the country... Another fine vintage for Cave Spring's flagship old vine Riesling, from a vineyard planted in the late 1970s. This wine has grown more textural and layered over the years, with one factor being the transition to spontaneous fermentation, in addition to the ageing vines. Concentration and depth are excellent here; acids ripe-tart, balanced, and the palate comes across as essentially dry despite a pinch of residual sugar. Excellent length. Top notch in the category.

– David Lawrason (1/1/20)

2018 Chardonnay CSV, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 93***Guide to Canada's Best Wines 2020 | Top 10 Selection (#9) | Top Value***

Here's a very refined, old vine, concentrated and elegant Chardonnay with a well composed and integrated nose of poached pear, vanilla cream, fine spice and toast. It is medium weight, very smooth, creamy and just a touch sweet but not in an egregious way. The focus and length are excellent to outstanding. Great poise within a generous style.

– David Lawrason (1/1/20)

2018 Pinot Noir Estate, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 92***Guide to Canada's Best Wines 2020 | Top 20 Selection (#13) | Top Value***

Pale-medium garnet-red-orange. This has evolved very favourably since last tasting it earlier this spring. It's showing a complex mix of dried red fruit, cold tea with lemon, old leather, old wood spice, dried flowers and more in an advanced display of evolution, quite complex, if less fruity than before. I like the polished, silky texture on the palate, the greater fruit diversity, the balanced-ripe acids and the long, perfumed finish. Understated, elegant, complex and sophisticated Pinot, all in all, drink or hold 2–4 years – no need nor desire for long-term ageing.

– John Szabo, MS (1/1/20)

2018 Cabernet Franc Estate, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 92***Guide to Canada's Best Wines 2020 | Top 10 Selection (#7)***

Rich and sensual, highly aromatic and gorgeously textured. Youthful with a firm tannic presence, plenty of freshness but above all, an abundance of perfectly ripe fruit with a soupçon of dried herbal notes. Lingering violets on the finish of great length. Best 2021–2025.

– Sara d'Amato (1/1/20)

(cont.)

REVIEWS & ACCOLADES (cont.)

NV Blanc de Blancs Brut, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 91***Guide to Canada's Best Wines 2020 | Top 20 Selection (#11) | Top Value***

This batch is very fine and elegant with beautiful, tiny, persistent bubbles and a delicate, yeasty, brioche nose with definite hints of Champagne. In addition, expect floral and apple pie aromas with hints of baked lemon and a nice mineral tone. The palate is creamy, rich and firm with a fine balance and very good length. Intense and lingering. Great as an aperitif with pastry nibbles or with a seafood starter.

– Steve Thurlow (11/20)

2017 Riesling Brut, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 91***Guide to Canada's Best Wines 2020 | Top 20 Selection (#14) | Top Value***

Crunchy, fresh, lemony, gently biscuity, this is one of the more successful traditional method sparkling Rieslings (12 months on lees) from Niagara in my view, with good complexity, and above average length. Lemon-lime-citrus flavours lead in the classic profile, while length and depth, and succulence, are impressive. I'd happily drink this at the price.

– John Szabo, MS (11/20)

2017 Riesling Dry, Niagara Peninsula – 89***Top 50 Best Values at the LCBO***

This is classic dry Niagara riesling with fragrant aromas of green apple, lime citrus with delicate floral and mineral tones. It is light to midweight with fine firm acidity and nice even flavours of dry apple fruit with just enough sugar (8gm/l) to balance the acidity, while making it feel dry. Very good length. Very classy. Try with raw seafood like oysters or maybe creamy goats cheese.

– Steve Thurlow (12/20)

**2017 Riesling Dry, Niagara Peninsula*****Gold Medal***

– Montréal (11/20)

WINE ENTHUSIAST

2018 Riesling Estate, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 94***Cellar Selection***

Dry, ripe and textured with bracing minerality, this bursts forth with lemon fruit, flesh and rind, along with the crystalline acidity that would imply. It's a dense, expressive style, more complex than just lemony, with penetration and focus. Will this age? Indefinitely. Is it terrific already? You bet. Drink now into the 2030s. Cellar Selection.

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REVIEWS & ACCOLADES (cont.)

2018 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 92

Old vines anchor this estate-grown reserve wine. It's dry and fruity, riper and with more alcohol than the previous vintage, so more forward and accessible as a result. A mix of citrus fruit and lemon peel highlights fill the palate, with just a faint suggestion of gin-like botanical herbs. It's a fine effort, more suitable for near-term drinking than long-term cellaring.

– Paul Gregutt (10/20)

NV Blanc de Blancs Brut, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown**A Toast to Canadian Sparkling Wines**

From one of the pioneering local wineries, which has been making wines since 1973, this is a traditional method sparkling wine, made entirely from the Chardonnay grape. Aged sur lie for at least 36 months, the result is toasty, bready notes on the nose that are well balanced by a fresh apple richness, pear and lemon on the palate. It is a dry-style wine, refined and elegant with good mineral notes, which is definitely worth its price.

– Rebecca Meir (10/20)

2018 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 92

From Cave Spring Vineyard, this bright and zesty Riesling from the Niagara Escarpment wine region is racy with ripe pear, peach and fresh-cut green apple aromas on the nose with bright apple, white-fleshed stone fruit, lemon zest, flinty and nutty flavours finishing long on the palate. Produced from some of Cave Spring's oldest vines.

– Natalie Maclean (9/20)

2018 Chardonnay CSV, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 92

This rewarding Chardonnay comes from a well-established vineyard on Niagara's Beamsville Bench, with an average vine age of 45 years, which naturally produce lower yields of grapes, resulting in more concentrated and complex wines. A mix of tank- and barrel-fermented wines, this is an appealingly fresh, ripe and rich style of Chardonnay with toast and cream notes that contribute complexity to the mix of fresh and juicy fruit flavours. Drink now to 2028.

2019 Rosé Estate, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 90

A new addition to the Cave Spring portfolio, this premium rosé is made from 100-per-cent Cabernet Franc from a single block of the Cave Spring Vineyard in Beamsville. It was barrel-fermented and aged in older barrels for added weight and complexity, but without any additional vanilla or toasted oak notes. The result is an attractive pink wine with a core of berry, watermelon and spice notes, and a clean refreshing finish. Drink now to 2022.

– Christopher Waters (7/20)

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THE GLOBE AND MAIL

REVIEWS & ACCOLADES....

WINE ENTHUSIAST

2017 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 94 | Editors' Choice

Produced from vines approaching 45 years of age, this reserve-level effort is simply extraordinary. It's layered thickly with ripe tree fruits, peach in particular, along with citrus, melon and papaya. Perfectly framed with refreshing minerality derived from limestone soils, along with well-tempered skin flavors, this belongs among the very finest New World expressions of Riesling.

– Paul Gregutt (7/20)

THE WORLD OF
FINE WINE**2017 Cabernet Franc Dolomite, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 92**

This seems to synthesize the two main styles of Cabernet Franc, showing quite concentrated, layered, and quite plush-textured fruit, with an appealing leafy note in the flavour profile. It's well balanced, with relaxed tannins.

– Rod Phillips (6/20)

L'actualité

2017 Riesling Dry, Niagara Peninsula**Le vin de la semaine: un riesling de Niagara**

D'un océan à l'autre, les déplacements demeurent limités. Et si on en profitait, à la veille des vacances d'été, pour explorer le Canada à travers ses vins?

Les vins du domaine de la famille Pennachetti ont beaucoup contribué à forger l'identité du vignoble de Niagara. Dès les années 1970, alors que plusieurs de leurs collègues vignerons jugeaient le climat de la région trop froid pour la culture des cépages vinifera, Len Pennachetti, son père et son grand-père ont introduit les premières vignes de riesling et de chardonnay dans la péninsule. Sur une douce pente protégée par l'escarpement de Niagara, une longue falaise née du retrait des mêmes glaciers qui ont façonné les fameuses chutes du Niagara, ces variétés venues d'Europe non seulement ont survécu, mais elles sont devenues des références de la viticulture canadienne, tant ici qu'à l'étranger. Aujourd'hui, le riesling couvre plus de la moitié du vignoble de Cave Spring. Cette cuvée nouvellement arrivée à la SAQ, composée en majeure partie de raisins du secteur de Lincoln Lakeshore, est un brillant exemple de riesling sec. Un joli nez de melon, de thé vert et de pomme verte traduit les effets d'un millésime plutôt frais et humide. La bouche est tout aussi expressive, parfumée et riche en nuances; le sucre résiduel (8,2 g/L) est en parfait équilibre avec l'acidité et le vin paraît tout à fait sec. Frais, tendu, salin, doté d'une agréable amertume et d'une finale étonnamment ample compte tenu de sa légèreté alcoolique à 11,5 %. Si frais et si sapide que le contenu de la bouteille descend à vue d'oeil.

– Nadia Fournier (6/20)

REVIEWS & ACCOLADES....



2018 Cabernet Franc Estate, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown— 93

Fragrant and complex, Cave Spring's 2018 Cabernet Franc is still very youthful and tightly wound, with wood yet to fully integrate. The palate shows substantial depth and concentration, and excellent acid-tannin structure, ensuring a long life ahead and eventual harmony. The fruit is pristine and the quality of the oak high – a premium bottling to be sure, with great balance and freshness in the cool climate style. Best after 2022.

– John Szabo, MS (5/20)



2017 Cabernet Franc, Niagara Peninsula – 89

After years of research and development, Cave Spring has settled on Cabernet Franc as its signature red wine variety in Niagara. The winery produces four versions from each vintage, with this expressive entry-level label representing the largest production at more than 2,000 cases. Grapes sourced from vineyards located close to Lake Ontario are selected to yield a ripe and fragrant red wine style. The resulting mix of ripe red berry, herbal and earthy notes captures the charm of well-made Cabernet Franc and makes for a fresh and elegant red wine that's ready to drink. Drink now to 2024. Available in Ontario.

– Christopher Waters (3/20)



New Wine Wonders Emerge as Growers Conquer More Challenging Climatic Conditions

2017 Cabernet Franc, Niagara Peninsula

Upon retiring from his masonry job, Italian immigrant Giuseppe Pennachetti decided to return to his homeland hobby of winemaking. He shared this passion with his family, who eventually planted European vines on Niagara's Beamsville Bench and became wine-industry pioneers in this region with their vineyards just a few miles away from the moderating effects of Lake Ontario. Natural springs below help keep the vines hydrated... This 100 percent varietal Cave Spring Cabernet Franc is bright cherry red with scarlet highlights. The nose is an enticing blend of aromas – first smoked tea leaves and tobacco, next yielding to dark cherry and raspberry, and finally revealing nuances of mint with a hint of cocoa. The mint and cocoa repeat on the palate, where the raspberry notes evolve into a rich cassis. Tannins announce themselves on the finish, firm but more than amenable after a touch of aeration. This is everything a New World cabernet franc should be.

– Renée Allen (3/20)

REVIEWS & ACCOLADES....

leSoleil

Éloge du Riesling

CHRONIQUE | Si le mot riesling évoque encore pour vous des souvenirs désagréables de vins allemands de masse, médiocres et trop sucrés, il est temps de faire progresser et triper vos papilles en découvrant la grande diversité aromatique que ce cépage noble peut offrir.

2017 Riesling Dry, Niagara Peninsula

La famille Pennachetti fut une des premières de la région à planter du riesling dans les années 70 et à le vinifier avec un savoir-faire qui s'étend maintenant sur trois générations. Les couches de calcaire argileux du terroir de Beamsville donnent un caractère minéral qui se détecte dès les premiers arômes et se décline en bouche sur des notes de citron et d'abricots avec une bonne complexité en finale.
– Nathalie Richard (3/20)

Wine Spectator

After the Gold Rush

Canadian Producers are ushering in a new era of quality north of the border.

Cave Spring Cellars, an early proponent of vinifera, planted Riesling obtained through Hermann Weis of St. Urbans-Hof in Germany's Mosel Valley as early as 1978. Its Riesling Icewine Lincoln Lakeshore (93, \$60/375ml) is one of the highest-scoring wines of this report. The 2017 vintage was challenging, with a cool and wet spring and summer, yet ideal conditions in the fall benefited the late-ripening Riesling. "Because Lake Ontario is so deep and temperate, it tends to allow for Riesling, our grape of choice for making icewine, to ripen gradually and completely," explains Cave Spring managing partner Tom Pennachetti, who serves as vice-president of marketing and sales. "By cooling the vineyards throughout the growing season at the lakeshore sites where we grow our Riesling for this wine, the lake prevents overripening in the late season," Pennachetti continues. "This allows the clusters to survive the [regular] harvest window and endure intact, if desiccated, through the freeze-thaw cycles of late-November and early December."

2017 Riesling Icewine, Lincoln Lakeshore, Estate Grown – 93

Floral, apricot, lanolin and white pepper aromas and flavours lead to honey details in this balanced sweetie, showing fine cut and length. Drink now through 2030.

2017 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 90

Intense aromas of peach, apple, pine and stone are the hallmarks of this sophisticated dry Riesling. Harmonious and vibrant, with good concentration and a lingering aftertaste of orchard fruit and mineral. Should develop notes of lanolin and honey with age. Drink now through 2027.

2017 Riesling Indian Summer, Lincoln Lakeshore, Estate Grown – 90

Floral, apricot, lanolin and lime flavours are the hallmarks of this subtly sweet white. Light-footed, with a vibrant character and a long finish. Drink now through 2028.

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REVIEWS & ACCOLADES.... (cont.)

2017 Riesling Estate, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 89

The aromas are reminiscent of a Mosel *spätlese*, exuding floral, peach, lime and slate notes, yet this is bone-dry. Balanced, with a chalky feel on the mouth-watering finish. Drink now through 2024.

– Bruce Sanderson (2/20)

TORONTO STAR

2017 Riesling Dry, Niagara Peninsula

So, this week I turned my column over to a few local sommeliers and asked them to share their favourite wines at the LCBO... Here's what they came back with... First up was director of wine Myles Harrison at Louix Louis of The St. Regis hotel. His selection under \$20 is Cave Spring Riesling Dry from Niagara. "I always have a bottle of this wine in the fridge," he says. "It's bright and fresh, and the acidity is energizing. It also has something to offer mid-palate, which I appreciate – especially at that price."

– Carolyn Evans Hammond (1/20)

Wine & Spirits

2017 Riesling Estate, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 92**2020 Annual Buying Guide Selection**

Cave Spring's old vines and sheltered position at the base of the Niagara Escarpment contributed to the success of this Riesling, a robust, firm wine from a cool, wet vintage. While the flavours are delicate – lime zest and pink grapefruit with a sparkly minerality – the texture makes it mouth filling. It has a pithy grip that suggest this would stand up well to meaty fish dishes; it should age well too.

2017 Cabernet Franc, Niagara Peninsula – 91

This retains an elegant line despite the meatiness of its dark, spicy fruit and roasted red pepper flavours. It's also floral and mineral, with pencil-lead scents and fine-grit tannins that will hold their own with a steak.

– Tara Q. Thomas (12/19)

THE GLOBE AND MAIL **2018 Pinot Gris, Niagara Peninsula – 90**

This counts as one of the most surprising wines I've tasted this year. Pinot Gris isn't a grape you'd closely associate with Riesling specialist Cave Spring. It isn't a variety that usually rises to such heights in Ontario. But here is a stellar expression that offers spiced apple flavours with an enjoyable honeyed character and appealing texture. The price makes it even more attractive.

– Christopher Waters (12/19)

REVIEWS & ACCOLADES....

HONG KONG
TATLER**Nine Wines from Canada and Northern Europe
You Should be Drinking Right Now**

The future looks challenging for some winemakers (globally), but others are just hitting their stride – particularly those in Canada and Europe’s far north.

2017 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 90

Planted among the Niagara Escarpment’s limestone caves in the 1970s, Cave Spring’s CSV wines are made from some of the oldest European vines in the region. The world-class Riesling has been made in an increasingly dry style over the years as full ripeness becomes regularly achievable and now has a radiant green plum and medicinal herb character with perfectly balanced acidity.

– Sarah Heller, MW (11/19)

THE GLOBE AND MAIL **2017 Riesling, Niagara Peninsula – 90**

Made in Cave Spring’s crowd-pleasing house style, this refreshing Riesling is marked by mouth-watering sweet and sour citrus flavours. Zesty with a balancing sweetness, it makes a terrific aperitif or food-friendly (and vegan friendly) dining companion.

– Christopher Waters (10/19)

HUGH JOHNSON’S
POCKET WINE BOOK
2020**Ontario, Canada: Cave Spring – ★★**

Respected pioneer (known for) CSV old vines Riesling, Chardonnay. Elegant estate labels age gracefully: Cabernet Franc, Chardonnay and top late-harvest, Icewine.

– Hugh Johnson (10/19)

Antonio Galloni
vinous
explore all things wine**Cave Spring Riesling CSV Vertical, 1999–2016**

Today, after over 30 years in the business, much-acclaimed Cave Spring Cellars produces world-class wines from the likes of Riesling, Pinot Noir and Cabernet Franc. And one wine in particular, the Cave Spring Vineyard Riesling, ranks with the world’s best in its category... A portion of the CSV’s vines are among the oldest vinifera vines in Canada, planted in 1975 and 1978. Only 5% or so of the vineyard’s best grapes are used to make the estate’s CSV wines... Pavan chooses to press his grapes softly with an overnight skin contact; he ferments at 16–18°C, and the fermentation can last anywhere from three to six weeks, depending on the vintage. Pavan has been using indigenous yeasts for the past eight years or so to make the CSV Riesling (by contrast, the more entry-level Rieslings of the Peninsula and Escarpment lines have been made with large portions of indigenous ferments only since the 2015 vintage). Fermentation takes place in stainless steel tanks, and the wine spends roughly five months on the fine lees prior to bottling. Until recently, Pavan has aged the wine in stainless steel, but he has begun experimenting with large oak barrels (such as old 500-liter puncheons); as of the last five vintages, about 20% of the total wine blend is aged in wood... the CSV Riesling often showcases

(cont.)

REVIEWS & ACCOLADES (cont.)

notes of fresh citrus (especially lime and pink grapefruit) and yellow plum; in warmer vintages, more exotic fruit notes dominate. With age the wines develop a very recognizable note of licorice or anise. Cool-year wines are especially juicy and vibrant, and though a steely mineral, flinty undertone is always present, outright diesel fuel nuances are more apparent in warmer vintages (such as 2002 and 2007).

2016 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 92+

2015 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 92

2014 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 94

2012 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 94

2011 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 91

2010 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 90

2009 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 89

2008 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 96

2007 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 91

2005 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 94

2004 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 90

2003 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 87

2002 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 95

1999 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench – 91

– Ian D’Agata (3/19)

WINE ENTHUSIAST

2017 Riesling Icewine, Lincoln Lakeshore, Estate Grown – 95

Editors’ Choice

Thick, concentrated flavours of apricot marmalade, papaya and tangerine dive deep down into the core. This fruit-driven flavour riot is amply annotated by a lush seam of caramel, and the flavours go on and on. One half size bottle will happily serve 4-to-6 sweet teeth.

2017 Riesling Estate, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 93

Editors’ Choice

Sourced from the estate’s oldest vines, this mineral-drenched, bone-dry wine fills the palate with texture and deep flavours. Rather than flesh, the emphasis is on skin phenolics—grapefruit pith and peel in particular. There’s a sense of light oiliness, not at all unpleasant, and a graceful, lingering finish.

2017 Riesling Indian Summer, Lincoln Lakeshore, Estate Grown – 93

Editors’ Choice

Solidly in the dessert wine camp in this vintage, this checks in at 102 g/L residual sugar. Peach, apricot and ripe nectarine fruit flavours abound, with a drip of honey. It’s juicy and big, but never cloying, and finishes with a suggestion of dry straw.

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REVIEWS & ACCOLADES.... (cont.)

2017 Riesling, Niagara Peninsula – 91

This tart and delicate wine packs a lot of flavour in its dry frame. Grapefruit and nectarine are the dominant fruit flavours. It's sappy and long, with a faint hint of petrol.
– Paul Gregutt (3/19)



Top 100 Wineries of 2018

Our Top 100 Wineries are playing at the top of their game. They astonished our tasting panels and critics any number of times this year. It's not easy to do in the midst of more than 15,000 wines. They come from all around the world, from Napa Valley and New York State to the Andes and remote corners of northwest Spain...

Cave Spring Cellars, Ontario

The Pennachetti family's range of savory, mineral wines has established Ontario as a major player in cool-climate viticulture. When Len Pennachetti helped his father and grandfather make wine, it was from vitis labrusca grapes: In the 1970s, most people believed Ontario was too cold to support vinifera varieties. The Pennachettis proved this untrue when, in 1973, they bought a vineyard at Cave Spring, a gentle slope protected by the Niagara Escarpment, a tall cliff left behind by the glaciers that formed Niagara Falls. They planted some of the region's first Riesling and Chardonnay, eventually growing the estate to 151 acres, with another 28 under long-term lease; fully half of the plantings are Riesling. And it's not all ice wine, the regions most famed wine: By fine-tuning details like planting densities, leaf thinning and vineyard drainage, the Cave Spring team puts out nine iterations of Riesling, most of them dry, each showcasing a different aspect of the region's varied terroir.
– Tara Q. Thomas (2/19)



2019 Smart Buys Ultimate Guide to Value: 90+ wines at \$30 or less

Our annual roundup of wines rated 90 or more points and priced at \$30 or less takes in more regions and grapes than ever before, counting a staggering 1,463 bottles. Whatever type of wine you're thirsty for, you'll find a highly rated version at an affordable price, reflecting the drive by producers worldwide to raise quality while keeping a lid on prices.

2016 Riesling Estate, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 90

2016 Riesling CSV, Beamsville Bench, Estate Grown – 90

– Keith Newton & Bruce Sanderson (2/19)

