



York Vineyards Earns Top Honours in Decanter Magazine’s ‘Sparkling Wines of the Americas 2024

Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario – September 2024 –

York Vineyards, Canada’s first and only dedicated sparkling wine house, proudly announces its exceptional performance in the prestigious Decanter Magazine feature, “Sparkling Wines of the Americas 2024.” A panel of experts awarded top scores to York’s sparkling wines, highlighting the winery’s commitment to crafting world-class traditional method sparkling wines and solidifying Niagara-on-the-Lake’s reputation as a premier wine region.

The international competition, which attracted over 130 submissions from across North, Central, and South America, included high-profile entries from top Californian producers affiliated with renowned French Champagne houses. In this highly competitive field, York Vineyards’ **Reserve Brut** earned a unanimous **96 points**, securing one of only three coveted “Outstanding” designations from Decanter. Additionally, the **Blanc de Blancs Brut** scored **95 points**, while the **Rosé Brut** garnered **93 points** for its elegance and vibrant character.

“Being featured in Decanter is a tremendous honour.” says Marty Werner, owner and winemaker of York Vineyards. “It validates our commitment to producing exceptional sparkling wines that reflect the unique climate and terroir of Niagara-on-the-Lake. We hope the recognition helps highlight our entire agricultural community here in Niagara on the Lake.”

The Reserve Brut, a blend of 66% Chardonnay and 34% Pinot Noir, was praised for its “fine evolution and extended lees-aging,” described as “very crisp and biscuity, with finesse, lift, and drive.” The Blanc de Blancs Brut captivated judges with its “Old World charm,” vibrant acidity, and “great persistence,” evoking a “sparkling Puligny-Montrachet,” a reference to the famed Burgundian village known for world-class Chardonnay. The Rosé Brut, with its delicate floral notes and fresh red berry flavours, was celebrated for its elegance and refreshing finish.



This strong showing by York Vineyards is part of a broader success for Canadian sparkling wines, with 37 Canadian wines earning “Highly Recommended” status—far outpacing other countries in the competition.

Lead judge Andy Howard, Master of Wine, expressed admiration for the Canadian entries, stating: “What truly impressed the panel was the quantity and quality of wines from Canada. North Americans should celebrate the world-class wines being produced in their own backyard.”

"This international acclaim marks a milestone early in York Vineyards' journey and brings it abruptly to the attention of the world's leading sparkling wine producers and wine writers." comments consulting winemaker Peter Gamble.

Situated on the historic St. David's bench in Niagara-on-the-Lake, York Vineyards combines traditional winemaking techniques with a modern vision. Since 2013, the winery has been honing its sparkling cuvées, and this recognition signifies a pivotal step in its journey toward becoming one of the world's leading sparkling wine producers.

York Vineyards will officially be launching in Fall 2024. For media, interview requests, sales questions, or to arrange a visit to York Vineyards, please contact:

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