



March 2014 Newsletter

Wines of Victoria Tasting & Steak Frites Dinner

At the Faculty Club, April 9, 2014



With over 600 wineries, Victoria has more wine producers than any other state, but ranks third in overall wine production due to the lack of a mass bulk wine-producing areas. Wineries have existed in Victoria since the 19th century and experienced a high point in the 1890s when the region produced more than half of all wine produced in Australia. Sadly the phylloxera epidemic that soon followed took a hard toll on the Victoria wine industry which did not fully recover till the 1950s. Today winemaking is spread out across the state and features premier wine regions such as Heathcote, Rutherglen and the Yarra Valley. Single varietal wines produced in the region include the Australian mainstays of Shiraz and Chardonnay as well as Viognier, and Pinot Noir.

This evening we will experience a range of eight outstanding Victoria wines, and as an added bonus, Mr. Jamie Drummond of Good Food Media leading the tasting, then a Steak Frites Dinner.

The evening will start at 6:30 with a white reception wine, then the tasting starts at 7:00 p.m.

Here is the line-up:

1996 The McAlister, Cabernet, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Petit Verdot, Gippsland

1998 Redbank Sally's Paddock, Cabernet, Shiraz, Cabernet Franc, Pyrenees.

2003 Taltarni Shiraz, Heathcote

2004 Plunkett Fowles Cabernet Sauvignon, Strathbogie Ranges

2004 Water Wheel "Memsie" Shiraz-Cabernet-Malbec, Bendigo

2004 Pyrenees Ridge Shiraz, Lamplough

2005 Summerfield Syan Cabernet Sauvignon, Moonambel, Pyrenees.

2006 Mornington Estate Pinot Noir, Mornington Peninsula

The Faculty Club is at 41 Willcocks Street, Toronto, 416-978-6325, one block south of Harbord, and east of Spadina Avenue. Metered parking on the surrounding streets, and TTC stops at Willcocks on Spadina.

Price for this event, all inclusive with the Steak Frites dinner, Members \$67.00 Guests \$77.00. Seating is limited to 60, so book early.

You can register on-line at <http://winesofvictoria.eventbrite.ca> or mail the attached Registration Form to Bernard Nottage to the address as noted on the Form.

Past Event

You requested one and we delivered one, a Winemaker's Dinner on March 6th at Vertical Restaurant. Mr. Peter Saturno, partner and winemaker at **Longview Vineyard** in the Adelaide Hills, South Australia was present to tell us all about his award winning wines.

We kicked off with a delightful 2012 W. Wagtail Sparkling Chardonnay/Pinot Noir, that was clean, crisp, followed by 2013 Whippet Sauvignon Blanc, then two reds; the 2010 Yakka Shiraz and 2010 Devil's Elbow Cabernet Sauvignon, Topping it all off with the 2013 Epitome, Late Harvest Riesling with dessert.

The two reds will be in Vintages this coming August, when we will email a reminder of their release in the stores. A great evening with super food and wine matches, plus meeting the bloke who made the wines.

Future Events

Tuesday May 13th our white wine tasting evening. Details in the next newsletter.

Thursday June 19th our Summer Solstice Dinner at the Faculty Club, outside on the patio.

For the Fall, we are planning a joint dinner/tasting with the South African Wine Society most likely in early October. Stay tuned.