



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 14th, 2013
Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON

Ideal Conditions for December Icewine Harvest at Inniskillin



A frigid week has led us up to this morning's Icewine harvest at Inniskillin Niagara. **Vineyard Director Gerald Klose** and **Inniskillin Winemaker Bruce Nicholson** decided to pick the Cabernet Franc and Riesling Icewine grapes from the Woerthler Vineyard (Line 4 at Concession 6), Niagara-on-the-Lake, starting at 3:00 am and finishing around 8:00 am.

Bruce comments, "It is always nice to get these two vinifera varieties off before Christmas due to their thinner skin. The harvesting of the thicker skinned Vidal grapes allow for it to be picked later if needed while still maintaining good quantity and quality."

Our earliest picking previously was Dec. 2nd, 2002 with our latest being March 5, 2001. Last night's temperatures reached minus 10 celsius. Nicholson looks for minus 10 as his optimal Icewine harvesting temperature. The desired sugar levels and acidities were reached.

About Inniskillin Wines

The combined efforts of the Inniskillin winemaking team and the viticulture team keep Inniskillin focused on consistently producing top quality VQA wines.

Inniskillin Wines, established in 1975 by co-founders Donald Ziraldo and Karl Kaiser, is Canada's premier estate winery producing truly distinctive and elegant wines from premium grape varieties grown in Canada. In January of 2007 Winemaker Bruce Nicholson arrived at Inniskillin Niagara after Kaiser's retirement and is carrying on the tradition of excellence and innovation. Inniskillin has vineyards in both the Niagara Peninsula in Ontario and the Okanagan Valley in British Columbia. Sandor Mayer has led

The Fall Harvest was recently completed in mid November giving just under a month's time for winery and viticulture staff a chance to rest before this morning's Icewine Harvest.

Inniskillin Okanagan recently harvested Riesling Icewine grapes on Nov. 21st for their earliest ever.

Bruce had another strong year with awards for his Icewines. A few highlights include:

- **GRAND GOLD** - 2011 Sparkling Vidal Icewine, *Selctions Mondiales Des Vins Canada*
- **DOUBLE GOLD** - 2008 Vidal Icewine, *San Francisco International Wine Competition, U.S.A.*
- **GOLD** - 2011 Sparkling Vidal Icewine, *WineAlign National Wine Awards of Canada*
- **GOLD** - 2008 Riesling Icewine. *Decanter Asia Wine Awards*
- **OUTSTANDING SILVER** - 2008 Riesling Icewine, *International Wine & Spirits Competition, UK*

Master List of 2013 Awards:

www.inniskillin.com/Niagara/About-Us/Awards

winemaking at Inniskillin Okanagan since 1996. Over the decades Inniskillin has gained many awards and accolades for both table wines and the iconic Icewines.

A powerful global brand, Inniskillin Icewine is the number one selling wine by distribution in duty free stores and can be found in over 80 countries and several airlines around the world. Inniskillin is proud of the role it has played bringing recognition to Canada as part of the international success of Canadian wines. In 2006 Inniskillin became part of Constellation Brands, the world's leading premium wine company.

For more information or to set up an interview, contact:

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INNISKILLIN ICEWINE HARVEST DATES

NIAGARA

| <i>Vintage</i> | <i>Harvest Dates</i> |
|----------------|--|
| 2013 | Dec. 14th, 2013 Woerthle Vineyard |
| 2012 | Jan.22nd, 2013 Woerthle and Brae Burn Vineyards |
| 2011 | Jan. 2, 3rd, 2012 Woerthle, Montague and Brae Burn Vineyards. |
| 2010 | Dec. 13th, 2010 Montague and Woerthle Vineyards. |
| 2009 | Jan. 29th-Feb 1st , 2010 Brae Burn Vineyard |
| 2008 | Beginning December 8, 2008 completed January 14, 2009 |
| 2007 | January 20, 21 |
| 2007 | January 3rd, 2008, Koop Vineyard and Brae Burn Vineyard |
| 2006 | January 16th, 21st, 28thcompleted January 31st, 2007. |
| 2005 | December 13, 14, 21, 2005; January 15 – 16, 2006. |
| 2004 | December 19, 27, 2004; January 17th, completed January 21, 2005. |
| 2003 | January 6/7, 2004 - Koop & Seeger Vineyards January 7/8, 2004 - Braeburn Estate |
| 2002 | Dec 2 -5, 8-11,16-18, 2002 and Jan 7 and 21, 2003 |
| 2001 | December 27th, 2001 to March 5th, 2002 |
| 2000 | December 13, 2000**Initial picking |
| 1999 | January 13, 2000 |
| 1998 | December 22/98 & Jan. 1 – 12/99 |
| 1997 | December 31, 1997 February 15, 1998 |
| 1996 | December 20, 31, 1996 January 1, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1997 |
| 1995 | December 11-13, 1995 |
| 1994 | December 13-14, 1994 |
| 1993 | December 26-31, 1993 |
| 1992 | December 26, 1992 |
| 1991 | December 5,18, 1991 |

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| 1990 | January 4,8 1991 |
| 1989 | December 6, 1989 |
| 1988 | February 4, 1989 |
| 1987 | January 5, 1988 |
| 1986 | January 23, 1987 |
| 1985 | December 15, 1985 |
| 1984 | January 8, 1985 |
| 1983 | No harvest, the crop was destroyed by birds |

OKANAGAN

| <i>Vintage</i> | <i>Harvest Dates</i> |
|----------------|---|
| 2013 | November 21, 22 Whitetail Vineyard |
| 2012 | January 12,th, 14th, 2013 Dark Horse and Whitetail Vineyards |
| 2011 | January 12, 2012 Whitetail Vineyard |
| 2010 | No harvest. |
| 2009 | No harvest. |
| 2008 | December 15, 2008 - Dark Horse Vineyard, Plut Vineyard, Serwo Vineyard and Whitetail Vineyard |
| 2007 | January 1st, 2008, Dark Horse Vineyard, Plut Vineyard |
| 2006 | November 28, 2006, Dark Horse Vineyard and Plut Vineyard, Osoyoos |
| 2005 | Dec. 6th, 2005 Dark Horse Vineyard and Dec. 6,7 Plut Vineyard, Osoyoos |
| 2004 | January 5, 2005 - Plut Vyd.; January 3/4th, 2005 Dark Horse Vineyards |
| 2003 | January 3, 2004 |
| 2002 | February 18, 2003 |
| 2001 | January 29, 2002 |
| 2000 | December 11, 12, 2000 |
| 1999 | January 19/20/00 |
| 1998 | December 19, 20, 1998 |
| 1997 | January 9, 1998 |
| 1996 | December 27, 30, 1996 |
| 1995 | December 7, 1995 |