

welcome

## This winter take a taste adventure with Occasions Magazine



It was with great pleasure that we take on the role of guest editors for Occasions – Nova Scotia's celebration of food and drink.

We are both self-confessed "cork dorks", so any opportunity to take even a virtual tour of the world of wine is an exciting opportunity. We've been surprised daily and made great friends on our travels while shooting Hollywood and Vines. We want to take this opportunity to invite you to do the same by diving into the pages of Occasions.

What better way to begin a taste adventure than with "Antipasto" – Chef Don Walker's tantalizing journey, featuring great recipes and wine pairings highlighting classic Italian food and wine combinations. Or perhaps, you might prefer to tickle your taste buds with a 'Taste of the Stars' – Erin Horton's whimsical investigation of sparkling wine and Champagne cocktails. For the main course, there is Chef Craig Flinn's recipe for a great holiday feast and Chef Michael Howells chowder and stew recipes paired with full flavoured wines such as Argentinian Malbec, Australian Shiraz and Chilean Chardonnay.

And of course, no celebration of great food and drink is complete without Icewine. Carman Mills' look at of Canada's most famous vinous export will undoubtedly have you exclaiming, how sweet it is!

This holiday season curl up with a glass of wine, one of Liz Feltham's delicious sounding hot drinks made for cold nights or any one of the beer, wines or spirits featured in the pages of Occasions magazine and toast life.

We leave you with this advice "never begin tasting at 8am if you intend to be functioning at 8pm"

Enjoy!

Terry and Jason

## Hollywood and Vines - We're taking a journey through wine

– By Terry David Mulligan

Jason Priestley and I are old friends. As old friends do, we went fishing way up the West Coast. After five eight hour days of sitting and talking we had come up with a concept...a television wine show that's of the people, by the people and for the people. Because Jason had 4000 bottles and I had 4, we decided to let him take myself and the audience walking, driving and riding on our journey through the world of wine.

We both agreed that most wine shows we'd seen put us to sleep and put wine on a pedestal. We were driven to de-mystify the whole process. So we shot stories for Hollywood and Vines along the West Coast, from the Okanagan/Walla Walla Washington/ Napa-Sonoma, all the way down to the Guadalupe Valley in Mexico with a relaxed approach to the subject. Very relaxed!

Along our journey we discovered that the British Columbia wine industry is not that far removed from where Napa was 15 years ago (the Guadalupe Valley, on the other hand might be closer to the Napa Valley in 1960). Then Nova Scotia popped up during a shoot at St Francis Winery in Sonoma. We were in the tasting room and the Trailer Park Boys came up in conversation. I said "hey let's shoot with them at a winery in Nova Scotia". To quote Jason, at the time; "I hear Nova Scotia has wineries, we should check them out". I did some research and discovered Nova Scotia has a vibrant industry with quite a list of wineries. I wrote to the Winery Association of Nova Scotia and they invited me to discover their bounty. I invite you to do the same.

Nova Scotia might not be on the international wine radar yet but remember neither was British Columbia a decade ago. The key to British Columbia's success was a challenge by the government for the wineries to replant to varieties that would succeed and put British Columbia on the world stage. The terroir determined which varieties would do the best and we are now seeing the success of these decisions. The same is true in Nova Scotia. Terroir will determine what varieties will succeed. We can't wait to see what they come up with in the next 5 years. I am happy to report the British Columbia wine industry continues to attract younger and smarter consumers they don't just want to stand and read back labels or look at cute critters on the front of the bottle. Today's consumer reads articles about wine, talks to sommeliers at bars and restaurants and embraces the local wine culture. British Columbia consumers now love our wines so much; they buy almost all of it up. Jason and I toast the leaders of the Nova Scotia wine industry now and look forward to its future success.

Here's to the people who call themselves dirt farmers..we call them artists!!

Hollywood and Vines TV

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