



## WINNIPEG WINE FESTIVAL

304-145 Pacific Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2Z6 P 204.925.5633 F 204.925.5635 Toll Free 1.888.333.9179 [winnipegwinefestival.com](http://winnipegwinefestival.com)

### Winnipeg Wine Festival is clearly Canadian in 2012

**For Immediate Release** –The 2012 Winnipeg Wine Festival is pleased to welcome both Wines of British Columbia and Wine Country Ontario as this year’s Theme Regions. Thirty-five outstanding Canadian wineries will be showcased at this year’s festival, each offering a diversity of wines at great value and stunning quality. British Columbia and Ontario offer nine individual and distinct VQA growing regions. We can get everything the world of wine has to offer right here at home – so come and discover Canadian wines!

The Winnipeg Wine Festival features 134 participating wineries from 14 countries offering over 500 wines. Many of these wines are exclusive to the Festival and are available in Manitoba for the first time.

The Winnipeg Wine Festival is an annual fundraising event for Special Olympics Manitoba (SOM). Now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year, the festival has grown to be one of the most respected wine festivals in the country and the largest single fundraiser for SOM.

“We’re excited to have British Columbia & Ontario as our theme regions for the 2012 Festival. Manitobans will be amazed at the quality of these world class wines which are showing huge growth in our market, said Steve McConnell, Marketing Manager of Manitoba Liquor Marts.

Terry Hopkinson, General Manager of the Winnipeg Wine Festival said over 6,000 people are expected to attend the Public Tasting evenings on Friday, May 4 and Saturday, May 5 from 7:00 pm-10:00 pm and the Saturday Matinee Tasting from 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm.

The highlight of the week is the annual Gala Dinner at the Convention Centre. “This event continues to sell out with 600 attendees enjoying an evening of dinner expertly paired with a variety of featured Canadian VQA wines along with a silent and live auction in support of Special Olympics Manitoba,” said Hopkinson.

The festival will begin on Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> with four days of wine-themed events at ten different venues throughout the city. Highlights include: *Party’s Outback*, an event with an abundance of Australian wine and Aussie-inspired bites, it’s a trip to Oz, minus the jetlag; A night for the quintessential Winnipegger, *20 Wines under \$20* features wines that offer the best quality to price ratio on the market; and *Experience Canada’s Premiere Wine Regions*, where you can meet some of the talented and passionate winemakers who craft sublime premium VQA wines in Canada. Tickets to ancillary events are available at [www.winnipegwinefestival.com](http://www.winnipegwinefestival.com).

All Public Tastings will take place at the Winnipeg Convention Centre and tickets are available at all Manitoba Liquor Marts and Ticketmaster. For more information, please visit [www.winnipegwinefestival.com](http://www.winnipegwinefestival.com). SOM is dedicated to enriching the lives of Manitobans with an intellectual disability through active participation in sport. For more information please visit our website [www.specialolympics.mb.ca](http://www.specialolympics.mb.ca).



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