

Wine column: New labels, new wines (and relatively new winemaker) at Road 13

Road 13 winemaker Barclay Robinson is a busy (and talented) boy.

He's crafted wines for three new labels at the Oliver winery.

The Honest John's portfolio of entry-level, approachable and affordable wines has redesigned labels that continue to depict Road 13's farming-tractor motif and new names for the wines.

They are the 2022 Crisp White (\$21), with aromas and flavours of pineapple, lemon, pear and lychee fruit), 2021 Bold Red (\$24), strawberry and black pepper, and 2022 Bright Rose (\$21), cherry and watermelon.



Barclay Robinson has been the winemaker at Road 13 Vineyards in Oliver since the spring of 2020.

Robinson, who moved from Ontario to join the winery in the spring of 2020, designed the Honest John's wines to be "uncomplicated, but deeply satisfying."

By the way, Honest John is the nickname of John Oliver (1856-1927), the pioneer farmer and politician who the town of Oliver is named after and who went on to be premier of British Columbia.





Road 13's Honest John's label features, from left, 2022 Bright Rose (\$21), 2021 Bold Red (\$24) and 2022 Crisp White



wines, priced from \$65 to \$80 a bottle.

The labels of the John Oliver Collection also feature tractor illustrations.

The middle tier of Road 13 wines is a new label called Select Harvest, featuring wines made from grapes hand-harvested from vineyards on Oliver's Golden Mile and Black Sage Bench.

There are four wines in the Select Harvest line, which, of course, also display tractor imagery on the label.

They are the 2020 Syrah (\$40), 2020 GSM (\$40) (Grenache-Syrah-Mourvedre), 2022 Rose (\$28) and 2022 Chenin Blanc (\$28).



Road 13's Select Harvest portfolio includes, from left, 2020 Syrah (\$40), 2020 GSM (Grenache-Syrah-Mourvedre) (\$45), 2022 Rose (\$28) and 2022 Chenin Blanc (\$28).

In keeping with its farming-first mantra and location on Road 13 in Oliver, the winery declares: "On our road there are no shortcuts. We work hard. We rely on each other. We respect the land."





Bottega Rose Gold (\$35), Bottega Gold (\$35), Mionetto (\$19.50) and Hester Creek Ti Amo 2022 (\$22).

Drink Prosecco Day

Drink Prosecco Day snuck up on me this year.

Don't let it sneak up on you.

This year, Drink Prosecco Day is Sunday, which still gives you ample time to hit the liquor store and pick up a bottle (or two, or three) of the Italian sparkling wine.

Since Prosecco was born in Italy, the best place to start is with Bottega, the world's most popular Prosecco from the northeast of the country.

Prosecco is not just the name for Italian sparkling wine, it is a region in Veneto (near Venice) and it is the name of the grape.

You'll probably recognize the Bottega Gold (\$35) because it's in a bougie, gold mirrored bottle.





second fermentation in big stainless-steel tanks.

(Champagne from France and any other Champagne-style sparkling wine is made with a second fermentation in the bottle).

While it's still labeled Prosecco, the Bottega Rose Gold (\$35) (in a rose gold mirrored bottle, of course) is actually made of Pinot Noir grapes to get its gorgeous pink hue.

For this Drink Prosecco Day, Bottega is also touting the Limoncello Spritz as the ideal August patio cocktail with Italian flair.

Make it in big wine glass with two ounces of Limoncello (the delicious Italian lemon liqueur), three ounces of Bottega Gold Prosecco, an ounce of soda water and lots of ice and garnish with a slice of lemon and some mint leaves.

Another brand of Italian Prosecco is Mionetto, which makes a beautiful Treviso Brut (\$19.50) with a lively and effervescent pear and honey profile.

If you want to drink an Okanagan bubbly done in the Prosecco-style then reach for Hester Creek 2022 Ti Amo (\$22) from Oliver.

It's fresh and light with a apricot, lychee fruit and toasted bread profile.

Steve MacNaull is a NowMedia Group reporter, Okanagan wine lover and Canadian Wine Scholar. Reach him at smacnaull@nowmediagroup.ca. His wine column appears in this space every Friday afternoon.

Discussion

Keep it kind. Keep it respectful.

0 comments

Sort by

Add a comment...



Facebook Comments Plugin

Send your comments, news tips, typos, letter to the editor, photos and videos to news@kelownanow.com.

Share

Tweet

Share

Email

Share



2 minutes

Wildfire West Kelowna

Josh Duncan • Aug 28, 07:35am

Officials will hold a briefing on the McDougall Creek wildfire this morning

The EOC says it will be the last scheduled press conference as local governments and Westbank First Nation move into different phases of re-entry and recovery.



Kelowna

1 min read

Rutland Health Centre closed following fire

All appointments are cancelled for now as a restoration company works to assess the damage.

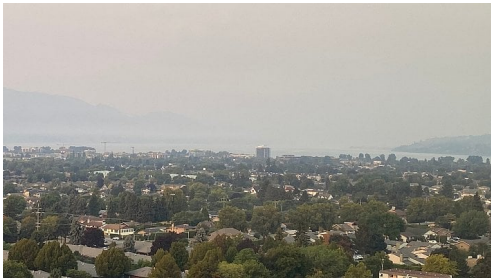
Josh Duncan • Aug 28, 06:40am



Residents of wildfire-stricken Okanagan region will soon learn fate of homes

In the Okanagan, meanwhile, the wildfire service said West Kelowna Fire Rescue is returning to "normal day-to-day operations," 10 days after a fast-moving wildfire forced thousands to flee their homes.

Canadian Press • Aug 28, 06:25am



Weather

1 min read

Kelowna weather: Sun in forecast, smoke in sky

The high is over 30°C today, but cooler temperatures and rain are the forecast as the week goes on.

Josh Duncan • Aug 28, 07:00am



Penticton

12 min read

Time to discover Summerland's hidden treasure, Garnet Valley (Part II)

Spectacular new wineries, recreation opportunities galore put focus on rural 'paradise.'

Gord Goble • Aug 27, 05:00pm

