



#### **HISTORY**

Icewine was originally first produced in Germany as far back as the mid 1800's. Production was small and not on an annual basis. In the mid 1900's more modern product practises allowed for annual production. More recently global warming has limited European production to 1 in 5 years. The first commercial production of Icewine in Canada occurred in the early 1980's and Icewine has been produced in Ontario every year since.

#### **REGULATION**

Icewine production is regulated in Ontario under the VQA Act and regulations. Strict standards are monitored by VQA inspectors, from vineyard to the bottle. Rules cover grape varieties, harvest procedures, winemaking, and testing before the wine is released. No wine may use the term "Icewine" on its label unless it is certified by VQA Ontario.



### **REGULATION** continued

Production must be monitored by a VQA-appointed agent who will stop the harvest once the temperature rises above -8°C.

It must be produced as a varietal from approved grapes.

The grapes must be naturally frozen on the vine and harvested and pressed in a continuous process while the air temperature remains at or below -8°C.

100 per cent of the grapes must be grown within a viticultural area, which must be indicated on the label.

The average sugar level of the juice used must reach at least 35° Brix (Brix is the measurement of sugar in grapes) and both the alcohol and residual sugar in the finished wine must result exclusively from the natural sugar of the grapes.



#### **GRAPE VARIETIES**

In Ontario, Icewine must be made from vitis vinifera grape varieties or the hybrid variety Vidal Blanc. The most popular varieties are Vidal Blanc, Riesling and Cabernet Franc.

Some small lots include Gewürztraminer, Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon.

#### **PRODUCTION**

Due to global warming Icewine production in Europe has been very limited in the last 20+ years. In Ontario we are fortunate to have had qualifying cold weather every year. Ontario produces 90% of the world's Icewine. Our Lakeview brand produces over 20,000 cases annually.



#### WHY IS ICEWINE SO EXPENSIVE?

The production of true Icewine is risky. Icewine producers leave select vineyards unharvested and wait for winter to set in. The fruit left on the vine after the normal fall harvest is vulnerable to rot, ravaging winds, hail, hungry birds and animals.

The making of Icewine is labour intensive. In order to ensure that the grapes are harvested when frozen solid, a trained workforce must be available to go out into the vineyards in the middle of the night at temperatures below -8°C to pick the frozen grapes by hand. The grapes must be pressed immediately while they are still frozen. Yields are small. It takes about 3.5 kilograms of Riesling grapes or three kilograms of Vidal grapes to produce one 375-millilitre bottle of Icewine. The same amount of grapes would produce six to seven times as much table wine.



### **ICEWINE—NOT JUST A DESSERT WINE**

If you're serving Icewine with dessert, make sure the dessert is less sweet than the Icewine (try fruit-based desserts such as peach cobbler, cheesecake or unsweetened fruit pies).

Serve as a starter with pâté or foie gras.

Enjoy anytime alongside fresh fruit and young, soft cheese. And, it's superb all by itself.

Icewine is Niagara's gift to wine lovers around the world. Sought out around the world by wine lovers who recognise the elegance of the wine and appreciate its full rich long lasting flavour.







### Lakeview Vidal Icewine

### **Awards**

2023

Decanter Magazine Silver 92 points International Wine & Spirits Competition Silver 92 points International Wine Challenge Silver Canadian National Wine Awards Silver 2022

American Wine Awards Gold National Wine Awards of Canada Gold 2021

China Wine & Spirits Awards-Gold International Wine & Spirits Competition Gold 95 points International Wine Challenge Silver



# Lakeview Cabernet Franc Icewine

Awards

American Wine Awards Gold
2020
Las Vegas Wine Awards Gold 92 Points
China Wine & Spirit Awards Double Gold
London Wine Competition Silver
2019
Ontario Wine Awards Gold









Lakeview Cellars is transitioning to Lakeview Wines Co.





### **Icewine Export**

Lakeview Cellars Icewine international distribution includes:

China Cambodia

Indonesia Denmark

USA Finland

Korea Mexico

United Kingdom Ethiopia

Germany Sweden

Greece Switzerland

Thailand Singapore

Philippines Hong Kong



