

**WINE AWARD:** Okanagan Valley Wine Experience, British Columbia, Canada

**HOSTS:** Dames Wendy Rose, Bella Wines; BC Chapter President Mireille Sauv , The Wine Umbrella; Christa-lee McWatters Bond, TIME Winery and ENCORE Vineyards; Jennifer Schell, Schell Wines, food and wine writer; Marina Knutson, SpierHead Winery; Audrey Surrao, RauDZ Regional Table; Lee Murphy, The Preservatory and Vista D'oro Farms & Winery.

**DATE:** Between September 1-15, 2019 (exact dates TBD)

Arrive in Penticton, BC, gateway to the 182 wineries that populate the bounteous and lush Okanagan Valley. <https://winebc.com> To start, the winner will spend two to three days with Dame Wendy of Bella Wines working the harvest, learning all things bubble, and staying at Dame Wendy's home. She will enjoy a special dinner with other local Dames at BC President Mirielle Sauv 's home in the nearby village of Naramata. While in the Penticton/Naramata region, she will also spend a day with Dame Christa-lee of the venerable TIME and ENCORE Wineries in their new "downtown" tasting rooms.

Next, she will travel north to the Kelowna wine area with Dame Jennifer and tour the valley's other wineries and highlights with a special stop at Dame Rebecca's Okanagan Crush Pad Winery in Summerland, then check into a hotel for the next two nights. The next day will be spent with Dame Marina of SpeirHead Winery, working the Pinot Noir forward vineyard, winery and tasting room. A wine-pairing dinner with Kelowna dames at Dame Audrey's Raudz Regional Table will follow.

The winner will spend her last day of the trip with a farm tour, walnut harvest and "jam-time" with Dame Lee at the Vista D'oro Farm and The Preservatory in Langley, BC, about an hour east of Vancouver. There will be a farewell dinner at the farm with local Vancouver dames and an overnight stay with Dame Lee. The winner will fly home from Vancouver the following morning. *This award is particularly well suited for someone in fine beverage service or industry.*