

BETWEEN THE VINES

with Kathleen Rake



Dog wash leads to new wine experience

We have a Standard Poodle puppy name Leilani and she led us to a new wine store in Abbotsford.

Well, not directly.

We headed for Sumas Mountain Village in Abbotsford to check out the Bosley's Pet Food Plus dog-washing stations we'd heard about from the breeder and discovered Sumas Mountain Wines, a B.C. VQA wine store, just a couple of doors away.

VQA – Vintners Quality Alliance – is the designation used in B.C. to indicate that what you read on the label is what you get in the bottle. In other words, BC VQA assures you the grape is what it claims and the B.C. region is, too. You are guaranteed wines that are B.C. grown and produced and meet a certain standard. However, it isn't a guarantee you'll like the wine.

And, it's important to note there are several B.C. wineries that produce

excellent all-B.C. wines but choose to not participate in the BC VQA program.

We took part in Sumas Mountain Wines' complimentary Saturday-afternoon wine tasting and sipped four from Wild Goose Vineyards in the Okanagan: Merlot, Pinot Noir, Pinot Blanc and Riesling. Of the four, I preferred the whites, especially the Riesling (\$17/12% ABV). So I took home two bottles.

Riesling is one of the most food-friendly and versatile wines. This Wild Goose example was juicy, refreshing and packed with the aromas and flavours of stone fruit, apples and citrus. In addition, I found a pleasing minerality on the nose and the proverbial Riesling petrol, which was a little more pronounced than I expected in such a young wine.

Serve this wine with almost anything, from spicy Asian fare to eggs Benedict, and enjoy.

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Q&A

What do you like best about UFV?

People really care. One-on-one time with instructors is great.

What's your favourite class so far?

Crim 230: Criminal Law.

Where is the most awesome place on campus?

Hanging out at U House.

What's your dream job after graduation?

Criminal Lawyer or Human Rights Lawyer.

Use three words to describe yourself:

Funny, Ambitious, Different.

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