

TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY

## Ritz-Carlton Toronto explores regional wines via hands-on experiences

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*Niagara, Canada wine region*

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By STAFF REPORTS

The Ritz-Carlton Toronto is encouraging guests to "wine down" in a new experiential package.

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Canada has emerged as a winemaking stronghold in North America, with world-renowned wineries producing cool climate Chardonnays and earthy Pinot Noirs. The guest package aims to showcase what Canadian vineyards have to offer through one-of-a-kind experiences.

### Uncorking Canada

Ritz-Carlton guests can experience the Niagara wine region firsthand through tours and classes led by the area's most celebrated vineyards.

In the hotel's "In the Winemaker's Boots" experience, guests can pick, sort and stomp harvest grapes at Flat Rock Cellars or head to Peninsula Ridge Estates Winery to learn the difference between French and American oak while sampling wines from small batch barrels.

Behind-the-scenes at Cave Spring Cellars, wine lovers can see the winemaking process first hand or visit Tawse Winery to learn about the organic and biodynamic methods used to create its vintages.



*The wine cellar at Ritz-Carlton Toronto*

Additional vineyard excursions include "From Reds to White," a course on non-traditional tasting methods; "99 Bottles of Wine in the Hall," a tour of fermenting tanks and bottling and "Touring the Terroir," an exploration of what makes the Twenty Valley an ideal environment for cool-climate Chardonnays and crisp Rieslings.

An interest in fine wines among affluent consumers has presented hospitality brands with opportunity to set up experiential packages and high-end accommodations.

For example, Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts is pursuing a different kind of California dreamer with its latest property.

Alongside Alcion Ventures and Bald Mountain Development, Four Seasons will open 85 guest rooms and 20 private residence villas in Napa Valley, CA in early 2018. Napa Valley's allure to cultured luxurians makes it an obvious destination for the hotelier, which already has several California properties ([see story](#)).

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