

Pillitteri Estates Winery toasts Olympic spirit with wine collection

By **Mary Jane Pittilla** on June, 25 2019 | Spirits & Tobacco



David Shoemaker, CEO of the Canadian Olympic Committee, and Brittany MacLean, Olympian and Bronze medalist at the Rio Olympics in swimming

Canada's Olympic Team and Pillitteri Estates Winery have united on an official Team Canada wine collection to mark the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo.

Described as "a perfect pairing of tradition and excellence", the collection is "deeply rooted in pride, respect and the pursuit of greatness", said Team Canada.

With every bottle, a C\$1 (US\$0.80) donation will be directly contributed to the Canadian Olympic Foundation and its efforts to support Canadian athletes.

The collection consists of both red and white wines and is available now to Canadian duty free operators via Pillitteri's duty free agent ALFA Brands.

The 2017 Team Canada red wine (VQA Niagara-on-the-lake) is a classic take on a Cabernet Merlot blend with a fruit-focused nature. There's sour cherry, cranberry, red plum, and redcurrant on the nose with layers of toast, black pepper, smoke, blackberry leaf and earth, along with an herbal quality which adds complexity. The palate has similar flavors to the nose with a creamy texture and smooth tannins, and is suited for early enjoyment. Production is limited to 3,500 cases.

Awards have included the Great American International Wine Competition 2019 - Gold and International Wine and Spirits 2019 - Bronze.

This easy drinking, versatile wine can be enjoyed by itself or paired with a variety of dishes. Since the wine has medium levels of acidity and tannins, it is ideal with salty and acidic dishes or those that are more savory or spicy.

The 2017 Team Canada White blend (VQA Niagara-on-the-lake) is an easy drinking and refreshing wine. On the nose there are notes of grapefruit, rose petals, white flowers, lemon and a hint of lychee for a tropical feel. The palate is off-dry with bright acidity that keeps the wine fresh and balanced. Flavors of white peach, lemon, honeysuckle, lychee, and bosc pear reveal themselves on the palate and continue into a clean finish.

Awards have included the International Wine and Spirits Competition 2019 - Bronze; and the Great American International Wine Competition 2019 - Bronze.

This versatile wine can be enjoyed with chicken, turkey and just about any fish. It also makes for the perfect wine to sip with friends and family while cheering on the Canadian Olympic Team, according to Pillitteri. Production is limited to 3,500 cases.