

**Inniskillin Okanagan Vineyards Winery****2006 Riesling Icewine
(Okanagan Valley)**

Inniskillin is one of the largest icewine producers in Canada, if not the largest, primarily from its Ontario vineyards in Ontario. Much of this wine sells at duty-free shops around the globe. With a smaller vineyard base, Inniskillin sister wine in the Okanagan makes smaller volumes and these icewines are seldom seen in export markets. A pity for icewine lovers since Inniskillin Okanagan is a very accomplished producer.

Sandor Mayer, the winemaker, took his training in his native Hungary in table wines, not dessert wines. Here, he mentored with Inniskillin co-founder Karl Kaiser and with other winemakers in the Vincor group, which now owns Inniskillin. In the 2006 vintage, he had the additional advantage that the hard freeze settled on the Okanagan in the third week of November when there still were lots of healthy grapes on the vines. Early freezes yield abundant volumes of clean and fresh icewines.

This Riesling has aromas and flavours of apricots and ripe pineapples. The wine shows an intense purity of fruit strung onto a taut tightrope of racy acidity. The balance is perfect: the abundant sweetness (not disclosed) is offset by the acidity and the wine has a crisp and refreshing finish that goes on and on. 94 points.

Reviewed March 12, 2008 by [John Schreiner](#).

THE WINE

Winery: Inniskillin Okanagan Vineyards Winery

Vintage: 2006

Wine: Riesling Icewine

Appellation: Okanagan Valley

Grape: Riesling

Price: \$60.00 (375ml)

THE REVIEWER**John Schreiner**

John Schreiner has been covering the wines of British Columbia for the past 30 years and has written 10 books on the wines of Canada and BC. He has judged at major competitions and is currently a panel member for the Lieutenant Governor's Awards of

Excellence in Wine. Both as a judge and as a wine critic, he approaches each wine not to find fault, but to find excellence. That he now finds the latter more often than the former testifies to the dramatic improvement shown by BC winemaking in the past decade.