

**Vetter Vineyards****2005 Dry Riesling
(New York)**

Mention "New York wine" to most anyone outside of the state and they will automatically think of the Finger Lakes, Long Island, or maybe (just maybe) the Hudson River Valley regions. But all the way over in Western New York – to Westfield, NY on the shores of Lake Erie – you'll find another wine region all its own.

This has long been grape country, but most of the grapes grown in this region end up in glass jars as jam or in big plastic bottles as concord grape juice. However, current owners Mark and Barbara Lancaster – who bought their wine estate from the Vetter family in

2003 – are out to make Vetter Vineyards the region's premier boutique winery.

Mark has over 20 years experience in the wine industry and he hopes to produce smaller batches of quality wine that can be made from the grapes they grow on their own land, including Pinot Noir, Shiraz, Merlot, Pinot Grigio, Riesling, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc.

Of the wines I've tasted from Vetter Vineyards, this Riesling shows real promise. It's a simple,-but-well made Riesling that is so pale it's almost colorless. It's a clean, well-balanced white with a fairly aromatic nose that offers grapefruit, lime and other citrus aromas mingling with just a hint of mineral character. Somewhat Alsatian in style, the wine has medium body and flavors that closely match the nose with a stony, mineral finish.

Reviewed May 1, 2007 by [Lenn Thompson](#).

THE WINE

Winery: [Vetter Vineyards](#)

Vintage: 2005

Wine: Dry Riesling

Appellation: [New York](#)

Grape: Riesling

THE REVIEWER**Lenn Thompson**

Lenn Thompson writes about New York wines for *Dan's Papers*, *Long Island Press*, *Long Island Wine Gazette*, *Edible East End* and *Hamptons.com*. Two words describe his taste in wine — *balance* and *nuance*.

Lenn prefers food-friendly, elegant wines to jammy, over-extracted fruit bombs and heavy-handed oak. When reviewing, Lenn tastes each wine three times — alone right after opening, with food, and again the next day — believing that 90-second reviews are unrealistic and not how the average person enjoys wine.