ROSÉ REPORT 2024

by Michael Pinkus

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Where to Find What

Introduction (Time to Open Rosé) ..... pg. 3

Rating Rosé ..... pg. 4

Sparkling Rosés ..... pg. 5

Still Rosés ..... pg. 10

Late Additions ..... pg. 21

Dessert Rosé (?) ..... pg. 22

Thank Yous ..... pg. 23

Final Thought ..... pg. 24

Follow and Contact Michael ..... pg. 25

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About Michael Pinkus ... a love affair with wine that goes back over 25 years and continues to this day. Michael is a multi-award-winning journalist as well as national and international wine judge. He is a freelance writer whose articles have appeared in numerous national and international publications. He is also the sole writer for his website MichaelPinkusWineReview.com, and past-President of the Wine Writers' Circle of Canada (2010-2015).

Time to Open Rosé

In the past, I have written about my theory of Rosé and the ways I believe people want to enjoy it. This year, I'll try to put a little spin on that theory, helping those to follow my scoring philosophy; all while telling you what makes a great rosé in my books.

During this year's tasting, my panel was small; changes in my life have left me with a more philosophical look at life, friends, and family. To those who sat at the table while I tried to focus on what made a particular rosé interesting – I thank you for indulging me and for your input.

I learned from one particular panelist that sweet still sells: "I like dry, but there's something about this one …" she said about a sweet rosé, then another, then another. But to me acidity is still King, fruit is Queen and drinkability the prince… I don't just want a glass of the "Best" Rosés, in this report, I want a case. I want to start at noon and not finish till the burger at dinner time hits my plate. The "Better" ones have a similar outcome, those I will drink happily throughout the day and never grow tired of what they have to offer. "Good" is just what they say… A good rosé can help while away the hours, have an ice bucket on hand, plunk two or three of those bottles in and the afternoon is yours; a pair of the sunnies on your face and a lounge chair at the ready – pool optional.

I tasted over 175 rosés this year, 126 are in the pages that follow. All the rosés in this report are worth tasting and trying. Create your own opinion about them - and if you wish to send me your thoughts, I'll read every single word. Thank you to those who sent Rosé in for the tasting, without you, this report would not exist. And most of all, thank you, the reader, for taking the time to download the report and read through it. Now go pick up some of these selections, toast friends, family and the winemakers; and most of all, enjoy the summer.

Cheers

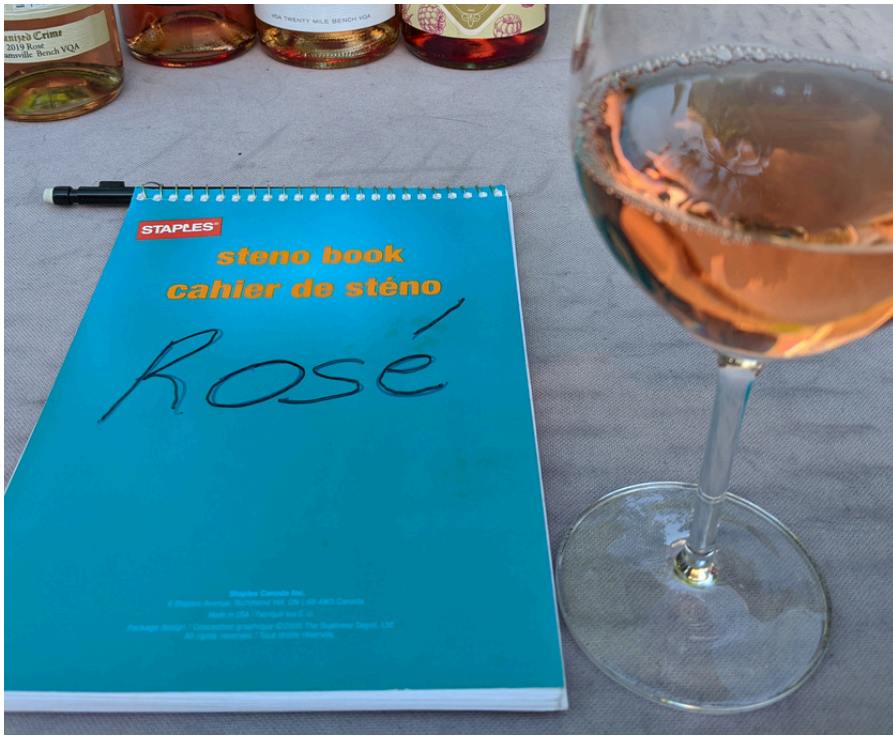
A few years back, I was rating rosés out of five stars, and the Rosé Report had a sameness to it: very few rosés garner 90-points-plus (nor should they), if a reviewer is being honest with you.

It's then, I realized that what people really want to know is how a rosé will make them feel - I also noticed when I shared rosé with people few waxed on poetically about them. They used words and phrases like "okay", "good", "wow", and "I really like that, got any more?" I was also asked where they could buy some.

RATING ROSÉ

Give me a hot day, sunshine, a glass in my hand, pink stuff glinting in the sunlight – that's a perfect day for rosé. The only question you'll be asking yourself: is it a Good day, a Better day, or is this going to be the Best day? And that became my rating for Rosé.

All wines are tasted price blind, and some may get a bump for good value once price is revealed ... Best rated wines were rated that score before the price reveal and no wine gets bumped into that category for price alone.



Looking for the best-of-the-best? Look for the pink box ...

This year I've decided to highlight the best-of-the-best in a different way. Look for the pink box (like this one), those are the wines that over delivered this year.

Sparkling Wines

alphabetical by country

Banrock Station 2022 Pink Moscato

*$14.95 - **Australia** - LCBO #170134*

Yes it's sweet, but it's Moscato, I'm expecting that and this one is right on target: pink lemonade with a little pineapple built in, a touch of fizziness - if you like Moscato, you will like what this pink is offering. **Better**

Yellow Tail NV Bubble Rosé

*$17.00 - **Australia** - LCBO #30836*

Fruity and sweeter style of bubbles - for the backyard, bachelorette crowd; or those who miss Baby Duck. **Good**

Dirty Laundry 2019 Brut Rosé (Cellar Series)

*Club Only - **British Columbia** - winery*

A traditional method bubble that smells like raspberries and strawberries, while the tastebuds deal with mineral and citrus - it's a good fizz, just wanted a little more red fruit in the middle. **Good+**

Little Straw Vineyards 2022 Kalala Frizzante

*$25.72 - **British Columbia** - winery*

A frizzante wine that has some notable sweetness while delivering raspberry-lemonade to the tongue. **Good**

Monte Creek 2022 Sparkling Rosé

*$23.99 - **British Columbia** - winery*

A light fizz with notes of raspberry and lime. Sit out on the patio and just enjoy this one with no complications. **Good+**

Moraine Winery 2023 Isla Frizzante

*$28.00 - **British Columbia** - winery*

Another subtly fizzy wine that shows sweetness on its sleeve, but also a savoury note - and it is very tasty. **Good+**

Sparkling Wines … cont'd

Stellers Jay NV Sparkling Rosé

*$28.74 - **British Columbia** - winery*

I have always been a fan of the Stellars Jay and this rosé delivers as well: delicate, with notes of raspberry and rhubarb. **Good+**

Taittinger NV Prestige Rosé Champagne

$95.90 - **France** - LCBO #25901

Sparkling rosé is one of the toughest bubbles to make and Taittinger makes it look easy: the bright colour livens any glass and the notes of strawberry-biscuits just makes one happy, happy, happy. **Best**

Santa Margherita NV Brut Rosé

*$21.95 - **Italy** - LCBO #302752*

There is a subtle playful sweetness that Prosecco can have, along with lemonade and raspberry notes - but it seems to end on the drier side. **Good+**

Domaine de Grand Pré NV Brut Rosé

*$42.00 - **Nova Scotia** - winery*

Nice colour and the flavours match: subtle orange with raspberry, pink grapefruit and cleansing acidity. A winner in my book. **Better**

180 Estate Winery 2022 Pink Is In

*$30.00 - **Ontario** - winery*

A Gamay bubble that's darker than one would expect, but it is vibrant in the glass … It has some good sweetness with loads of cherry (honey soaked) and strawberry - this will make a ton of friends in the backyard. **Good+**

Cave Spring NV Rose Brut

*$39.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Lovely aromas of strawberry, which comes through on the palate along with notes of lime and some minerality on the finish. **Better**

Chateau des Charmes 2017 Rosé Sparkling

*$34.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Holy Hanna … this is serious stuff that winemaker Amélia Boury is very proud of, and she should be: five years on lees has produced complex notes and yet brighter than expected fruit and freshness. Notes of cherry and strawberry roar out of both the nose and into the mouth. Fantastic. **Best**

Sparkling Wines ... cont'd

Diamond Estates NV Fresh Sparkling Rosé

*$18.95 - **Ontario** - LCBO #341347*

Sometimes all you need a sparkle and fruit to match - this delivers - a real party pleaser. **Good**

Fielding NV Sparkling Rosé

*$35.15 - **Ontario** - winery*

At first there was a sulphur edge to this wine, but once you let that blow off in swept orange peel, cran-raspberry tartness and a lovely finish. Worth the wait. **Better**

Foreign Affair NV Sparkling Rosé Brut

*$24.95 - **Ontario** - LCBO #19346 & winery*

Pleasant little bubble that delivers on peach with some playful acidity. **Good+**

Fresh Wines NV Sparkling Rosé

$18.95 - **Ontario** - LCBO #341347

Lemon and raspberry with some good acidity on the finish. This is pleasant, refreshing and easy drinking. **Good+**

Henry of Pelham NV Cuvee Catharine - Brut Rosé

*$32.95 - **Ontario** - LCBO #217505 & winery*

Fine bubble with notes of raspberry, cherry and lime - tangy peach and zappy acidity on the finish. **Better**

Huff Estates 2021 Cuvee Janine

*$40.00 - **Ontario** - winery*

At first things were strawberry-cherry on the nose; raspberry-floral in the mouth, but in crept a soapy-like finish. Intriguing and tastes pretty good, with a cherry linger on the finish and nice acidity - but could not get over the soapy ... this one cleans your mouth while you drink. **Good+**

Magnotta NV Rosé Sparkling 1925

*$14.75 - **Ontario** - winery*

On it's own, it's ok - but throw this in with some fruit and a party atmosphere and this is your perfect Sangria starter - Party on! **Sangria**

Malivoire NV Bisous Rosé

*$35.00 - **Ontario** - winery*

Really lovely red fruits make your mouth extremely happy: red currants, strawberry and sweet cranberry - finishes with a tap of acidity for balance. **Best**

Sparkling Wines ... cont'd

Pelee Island Winery 2021 Empress III

*$55.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Not sure I have ever seen a Traditional Bubble from Pelee, so this came as quite the surprise to me. This has playful cherry notes and even some raspberry, all finishing clean and easy. **Better**

Peller 2020 Rosé Bubbles

*$14.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Slight petillant that delivers a playful spritz to the tongue: it has a sweetness to it, but that comes with some peach and ginger notes. **Good+**

The Grange of Prince Edward 2017 Lafontaine du Loup Rosé

*$58.00 - **Ontario** - winery*

Nice little bubble that barely touches the rosé aspect: lemon curd mixes with raspberry. **Good**

Trius NV Brut Rosé

*$26.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Dry, crisp, tart, pretty - those were the first four words I wrote on my page. As serious as the Trius Rosé has become the Brut is just as serious: floral, lemon-lime-raspberry flipping into a watermelon finish - this is simply put, a gorgeously serious bottle of bubbles and the price puts in the value realm as well. **Best**

Two Sisters Vineyards 2021 Lush Sparkling Rosé

*$57.80 - **Ontario** - winery*

Subtle red berry sweetness meets up with lemon for a clean finish. **Good+**

Westcott Vineyards 2020 Brillaint Rosé

*$40.00 - **Ontario** - winery*

This 100% Pinot Noir bubble spends one year on lees; it's light and fresh and full of cherry and raspberry flavour. It's aback deck bubble - one to enjoy the day or start the day. **Good+**

Lungarotti NV Rosé Brut

*$--.-- - **Italy** - Profile Wine Agency*

The wine rests 24 months (minimum) on lees, and Lungarotti has been making traditional method bubbles since the 70's; but did not start selling commercially till the 80's - today they make 3 kinds. In this version they use three vintages in the making, though the base is 2021. Fresh and easy with a nice strawberry hit with subtle lime. Good bubble. **Better**

Sparkling Wines ... cont'd

Valdangius 2022 Ventibolle Rosé

*$--.-- - **Italy** - No Agent*

An "Ancetrale Sparkling" that has nice flavour to it: raspberry and strawberry pith; the wine leaves the tongue a little gritty, like licking citrus pith - but this wine has its good side too. **Good**

Kir-Yianni 2022 Akakies Sparkling

$26.95 - **Greece** - Kolonaki Group

This is one of those bubbles you expect little from and yet it delivered so much fun. Pure raspberry, blackberry and wild strawberry notes; reminded me of a kir royale (bubbles and cassis) by the fourth or fifth sip - totally gulpable. Buy a bunch and enjoy. **Best**

Still Rosé Wines

alphabetical by country / province

Argento 2023 Rosé Minimalista

$11.95 - **Argentina** - LCBO #37221

Cran-raspberry juiciness that's ready for a hot day in the sun. Crushable. **Good+**

50th Parallel Estate Winery 2023 Estate Pinot Noir Rosé

$36.80 - **British Columbia** - winery

A bizarre combination of raspberry juice meeting under-ripe watermelon meets lemon zest … but somehow it all works out well. **Better**

Bordertown Vineyard & Estate Winery 2022 Rosé

$22.90 - **British Columbia** - winery

Another basic rosé that will still feed your need: Orangina and strawberries mix here and deliver the goods. **Good**

Chaberton Estate Winery 2023 La Fleur de Chaberton

$27.55 - **British Columbia** - winery

This one sneaks up on you, sip after sip … starts with some melon, then in steps a tang of orange and the acidity takes over. Pretty and pleasing. **Better**

Ciao Bella Winery Ltd. 2023 Pinot Rosato

$33.30 - **British Columbia** - winery

Very strawberry, almost to the point of being confected, but I liked the flavour here. **Good**

Covert Farms Family Estate 2023 Rosé

$25.80 - **British Columbia** - winery

A wine that delivers on the edges, meaning strawberry pith and melon rind - but it still delivers. **Good**

Still Rosé Wines ... cont'd

Dirty Laundry 2022 Hush

*$20.99 - **British Columbia** - winery*

Fresh melon (canary and cantaloup) along with peach, and tart notes that help finish this one off dry and delicious. It's pretty friendly and really tasty. **Better+**

French Door Estate Winery 2023 Rosé

*$36.80 - **British Columbia** - winery*

Notes of both green and yellow melon, and while the acidity seems a little muted, the fruit really does shine here. **Good+**

Hester Creek Estate Winery 2023 Rosé Noir

*$32.19 - **British Columbia** - winery*

Winner of the inaugural Rosé trophy at the All Canadian Wine Championships ... this is a fresh and fruity model that delivers on white and red fruits: lemon, green apple for tartness and raspberry for that rosé yumminess. **Better**

Lakeside Cellars 2022 Rosé

*$22.00 - **British Columbia** - winery*

Peach and red apple with a subtle tap of acidity. Tasty. **Good**

Monte Creek 2023 Living Land Rosé

*$21.99 - **British Columbia** - winery*

Monte Creek comes through again with notes of strawberry Jolly Rancher, the tart finish sticks around on the sides of the tonge and the acidity makes the wine fresh and crisp. **Better+**

Moon Curser Vineyards 2023 Heist

$31.04 - **British Columbia** - winery

Subtle yet surprising with notes of strawberry, orange and lemon. **Good+**

Moraine 2022 Reserve Rosé

*$30.00 - **British Columbia** - winery*

Nice raspberry-ish and watermelon rind notes. Good

Moraine 2023 Pink Mountain

*$27.00 - **British Columbia** - winery*

Starts off peachy and never lets up; light raspberry appears and cascades along the tongue through to the long finish - there are also notes of rhubarb and watermelon. Hot day sipper for sure. **Better**

Solvero Wines 2023 Rosé

*$28.85 - **British Columbia** - winery*

For those looking for a combination of raspberry, cherry and melon - look no further. **Good+**

Still Rosé Wines ... cont'd

Vasanti Winery LTD 2022 Cabernet Sauvignon Rosé

*$31.49 - **British Columbia** - winery*

Cherry and raspberry red fruit bowl of flavour. **Good**

19 Crimes 2022 Cali Rosé - Snoop Dogg

*$19.95 - **California** - LCBO #20624*

This is as sweet as rosé gets without calling itself White Zinfandel - perfect Sangria starter if you are willing to toss in a boatload of citrus to curb that sweetness of cherry and strawberry. **Sangria**

Beringer NV Main & Vine - White Zinfandel

$11.95 - **California** - LCBO #239756

White Zin is like I remember it, sweet, almost syrupy compared to today's standards of rosé: dry and delicate. This is pure sweet strawberry juice - you can find a bowl and a boatload of citrus and you can make an afternoon's worth of Sangria. And that's not a bad thing. **Sangria**

Francis Coppola 2022 Sofia Rosé

*$24.95 - **California** - LCBO #284943*

This is a very strawberry driven rosé - flat, but very strawberry. **Good**

Joel Gott 2022 Rosé

*$24.95 - **California** - LCBO #668368*

A little sweet upon entry, but a little bitter on the finish, so it balances itself out. **Good**

Joseph Carr 2022 Josh Rosé

*$19.95 - **California** - LCBO #539312*

This is a one note rosé but two words best describe it: orange and/or tangerine. **Good**

Aix 2023 Saint Aix

*$26.95 - **France** - LCBO #451906*

Acidity is crisp and rises to the level of top-notch for acid-heads; there's also plenty of lemon rind, strawberry, raspberry and orange zest. **Best**

Chateau Val-Joanis 2023 Luberon

*$19.95 - **France** - LCBO #707281*

Light and refreshing with a slightly bitter finish - there is some diluted fruit, namely peach and raspberry, on the mid-palate, but the bitter and fast finish drags it down a little. **Good+**

Domaine D'Espeyran 2023 Elegance (Terres du Midi)

*$18.95 - **France** - LCBO #37825*

Yes. Yes. Yes. The name does say it all - elegant ... this hot day refresher is full of peach and apricot; totally enjoyable with some good acid pucker on the finish. **Better+**

Still Rosé Wines ... cont'd

Gerard Bertrand 2023 Gris Blanc

*$16.95 - **France** - LCBO #14673*

Lots of lemon here, plus some white peach, red raspberry and a pleasant finish. **Good+**

Gerard Bertrand 2023 Cote des Rosé

*$19.95 - **France** - LCBO #373985*

Granache, Syrah and Cinsault create a dry wine with citrusy notes and even a hint of the herbaceous: pretty afternoon sipper. **Good+**

Gerard Bertrand 2023 Perles de Grenache Rosé

*$19.95 - **France** - LCBO #556209*

A pleasant and pleasing rosé from the south of France - nice lemon/lime and bitter melon notes. **Good+**

La Vieille Ferme 2023 Rosé Ventoux

*$13.85 - **France** - LCBO #622134*

A hot weather worthy refresher: strawberry and peach defer to citrus on the finish. Very nice. **Better**

Remy Pannier 2022 Rosé d'Anjou - Bateliers de Loire

*$15.95 - **France** - LCBO #12641*

This one comes across quite nicely with some sweetness backed by strawberry Jolly Rancher - pleasant for an afternoon. **Good+**

Kir-Yianni 2022 Akakies - Xinomavro Rosé

*$18.95 - **Greece** - Kolonaki Group*

Not sure where the nose of grilled scallops comes from, but it is not unappealing. There's fruit at the core but it's the nose that will have you either grabbing for something different, or sticking with it to figure it out. Stick with it, this one's kinda fun. **Good+**

Skouras 2023 Cuvee Prestige Rosé

*$15.95 - **Greece** - LCBO #25745*

This quaffable rosé from Greece boasts notes of raspberry, cherry and citrus while on the back palate you'll find some bitterness from the acid punch - this is a beauty. **Better**

Thalia NV Rosé Wine

*$12.95 - **Greece** - LCBO #27148*

With muted flavours that come across like tart watermelon and a citrus punch that creates a decent mouthfeel, this wine split the crowd, but once it opened a little it won most of us over. Good+

Folonari 2023 Pinot Grigio Pink

*$15.00 - **Italy** - LCBO #43588*

Subtly grassy from the get-go along with some peachy-limeade notes; very effective and different for the Pinot Grigio crowd. **Good+**

Still Rosé Wines ... cont'd

Santa Margherita 2023 Rosé

*$21.95 - **Italy** - LCBO #25752*

Basic rosé, but it's well worth going back to the basics sometimes. Dry and citrusy with good acidity. **Good+**

Magnetic Hill Winery 2023 Lodestone Rosé

*$20.00 - **New Brunswick** - winery*

My first rosé from New Brunswick: a little fizzy, a little fun, and a little bit tasty. **Good**

Soho Family Vineyards 2023 Harry Rosé

$21.95 - New Zealand - LCBO #19545

Quite the aromatic rosé and it delivers on peach, floral and lime - flavourful, easy drinking and fun. **Better**

80x Wines 2023 When Pigs Fly Rosé

*$20.00 - **Ontario** - Marynissen*

Man, it's hard to forget your first time; the 80x company roared out of the gate with their first Rosé (a few years back) and it has been hard to match that performance. This one delivers some summer time enjoyment, and any patio will be happy to serve it, but ... (read the first line). **Good+**

Black Bank Hill 2022 Runaway Rosé

*$25.00 - **Ontario** - winery*

This 24 hours on skins Cabernet Franc (94%) and Merlot (6%) has floral notes with some spicy character as well. It'll do you palate good to drink this; but ... (see the 2023). **Good**

Black Bank Hill 2023 Runaway Rosé

*$25.00 - **Ontario** - winery*

Adding an extra 24 hours from the previous year. Mix up the grapes a bit: Cabernet Franc (94%) and Cabernet Sauvignon (6%) and you develop more flavour and a more interesting rosé. A cherry-rhubarb core with some serious signs of freshness and subtle tannin notes. This is serious rosé for those sitting down to dinner. **Better**

Calamus 2023 Rosalee's Rosé

*$19.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Really pretty, slightly sweet but ultimately refreshing: good watermelon and lemon, hints of floral; and if you dig deeper there's even more complexity. **Better+**

Still Rosé Wines ... cont'd

Cave Spring 2022 Rosé Dry

*$16.95 - **Ontario** - LCBO #295006 & winery*

Starts off as a minimalist rosé before really showing itself to have more depth: strawberry, cherry, raspberry and lime - all good fruit combinations making this wine easy drinking and flavourful. **Better**

Chateau des Charmes 2023 Cuvee d'Andrée

*$18.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Drier and weightier than usual, more gastronomic in nature - and that is a good thing. Subtle tannins play on mid-palate and onto the finish. This is some serious stuff. **Better**

Closson Chase 2023 KJ Watson Pinot Noir Rosé

*$25.00 - **Ontario** - winery*

When this rosé is on its game, it's hard to beat - this year is on the cusp of brilliance. Good citrus notes with hints of floral and a lively long lime finish. **Better**

Colchester Ridge (CREW) 2021 Red Sky at Night

*$17.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

This sits on the more serious side of the rosé spectrum. The darker colour may be the giveaway. Strawberry through and through with a little tannin grit and even a little umph as it punches at the tongue. The name seems to tell you what to do - wait for the BBQ to start up at night and the Burgers to hit your plate. **Good+**

Cooper's Hawk 2023 Dry Rosé

*$20.15 - **Ontario** - winery*

This one finishes tart and that's what should win you over on a hot day: Byng cherry and lime minx to bring you a pink lemonade finish. **Good+**

Creekside 2023 Rosé

*$15.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Fruit driven affair: peach, pear, melon and jolly rancher lime adds that pucker. **Better**

Creekside 2023 Syrah-Viognier Rosé

*NEW - **Ontario** - winery*

A late arrival and newly bottled wine; it took some time and some shaking to coax it out of it sleepy state, but once we did we held summer in a glass: unripe strawberry, crenshaw melon, pink lemonade, floral - it showed both some complexity and some playfulness. Welcome to the party. **Better+**

Still Rosé Wines ... cont'd

Family Tree 2023 The Merry Widow Rosé

*$16.95 - **Ontario** - LCBO #24972 & winery*

Notes of floral and peach with some lemony freshness. The finish doles out cherry and watermelon-rind, giving this wine a little edginess. This is a three bottle purchase, easy. **Better+**

Featherstone 2022 Rosé

*$16.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Pleasant notes of Byng cherry, lemon and watermelon rind - a dialed down version of the usual Featherstone vibrant in your face style. **Good+**

Fielding 2023 Rosé

*$17.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

This is a friendly and fun rosé full of bubblegum, watermelon and cherry with a hint of lemon - what could be more fun than that. Drink up and enjoy. **Better**

Fielding NV Long Weekend Rosé

*$13.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

A few years back this was on top of this list, it has lost that mantle, but it is still a decent piece of rosé business ... cranberry cocktail with some cherry juice and a lime finish. **Good+**

Foreign Affair 2023 Amarosé

*$19.95 - **Ontario** - LCBO #388702 & winery*

Lighter than in previous versions, especially colour-wise): good acidity with herbal and a subtle crispness on the finish. **Good**

Fresh Wines NV Rosé

*$15.95 - **Ontario** - LCBO #34068*

Peachy, raspberry and lime - pleasantly refreshing, if a little on the sweet side. **Good**

Good Natured 2023 Rosé

*$12.95 - **Ontario** - The Wine Shop*

A label from the Peller family of wines, this one delivers on cotton candy and strawberry-lime - it has a subtle sweetness, but it's a crowd pleaser. **Good**

Henry of Pelham 2023 Rosé

*$14.95 - **Ontario** - LCBO #61347 & winery*

Fresh and lively with a nice cherry, raspberry mid-palate and a long finish. **Good+**

Hidden Bench 2022 Locust Lane Rosé

*$24.75 - **Ontario** - winery*

Floral, cherry blossom nose leads to a cherry, raspberry and orange zest finish. This is one to have with dinner. **Good+**

Still Rosé Wines … cont'd

Hidden Bench 2022 Nocturn Rosé

*$24.75 - **Ontario** - winery*

Deep colour with intense aromas and flavours: cherry-strawberry with a subtle sweetness that gets balanced out by a tannin hit. Really pretty rose and a pure pleasure to drink, especially with its cherry finish. **Better**

Huff Estates 2023 County Roads Pinot Noir Rosé

*$25.00 - **Ontario** - winery*

Best rosé from Huff in a long time: cherry, lime, and passionfruit all combine to make this a crushable experience. **Better+**

Jabulani Winery 2023 Rosé

$19.95 - **Ontario** - winery

Terrible choice of a dark bottle for this beautifully coloured pink wine: floral, peach prettiness followed by Byng cherry, sweet strawberry and a lime zest finish … this has a lot going for it. **Better**

Kacaba 2023 Rebecca Rosé

*$21.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

The report is not the report without an appearance by Rebecca - the tutti-frutti nose is the sweet course; but the lovely fruit driven middle of watermelon, cherry, and raspberry seals the deal with a dry finish. **Better**

Lakeview Wine Co. NV 20 Bees Rosé

*$13.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

I found something fun in this rosé, but not everybody did: subtle lemon and lime notes with some peach pit. **Good**

Magnotta 2022 Pinot Noir Rosé

*$10.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Nice fruit forward nature, a little sweet in the cherry department with some rhubarb-strawberry backing. Good+

Magnotta 2021 Pinot 2 Rosé

*$15.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Drinkable but getting a little long in the tooth; but it can easily be used in the hot weather with ice, fruit and a good time. **Sangria**

Malivoire 2023 Moira Rosé

*$28.00 - **Ontario** - winery*

Using clones 667 and 777 this is made in a lovely dry style with notes of citrus and apple skin - it never fails to be a top rosé in this report and around the province. **Better+**

Still Rosé Wines … cont'd

Malivoire 2023 Vivant Rosé

$21.95 - **Ontario** - #498535 & winery

Red apple, lime. Citrus - lively fruit with a lingering finish - this never fails (so far) to be in my top rosés of the year … people dig on Moira, but I just love the punch I get from Vivant. **Best**

Megolomaniac 2021 Pink Slip

$20.95 - **Ontario** - winery

Plenty of acid greets the mouth, but so too does strawberry, raspberry, which makes this wine quite friendly. **Good**

Meldville 2023 Cabernet Franc Rosé

*$20.00 - **Ontario** - online*

Nice depth of character (like the winemaker) with a good hit of wild strawberry that will have you carrying this out to the patio as often as possible. Also look for notes of melon - totally quaffable. **Best**

Niagara College Teaching Winery 2023 Dean's List - Cabernet Franc Rosé

*$24.75 - **Ontario** - winery*

This is a darker coloured rosé that may have been left too long on skins (?) - it has developed beets and other earthy character that made it a tough one to wrap your lips around for a second glass. Great base for a Sangria, as the added fruit and spritz would help to lighten it up. **Sangria**

Niagara College Teaching Winery 2023 Dean's List - Pinot Gris Rosé

*$24.75 - **Ontario** - winery*

Floral with punchy acidity, white peach and passionfruit also show up and then on the finish lime slips in with a touch of watermelon rind to keeps things honest. Nice job here. **Good+**

Niagara College Teaching Winery 2023 Dean's List Cabernet Sauvignon Rosé

*$24.75 - **Ontario** - winery*

Nice notes of strawberry and cherry with a pretty dry finish. **Good**

Paglione Estate Winery 2022 Rosé Cabernet Sauvignon

*$17.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Think of this little refresher from Starbucks: raspberry, pomegranate, lemonade … now add booze and call it a Rosé. **Good+**

Still Rosé Wines ... cont'd

Peller 2023 Family Reserve Rosé

*$23.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

The finish carries on for a long while: peach, rhubarb, cranberry all get into the mix - quite delicious. **Better**

Peninsula Ridge 2023 Beal Vineyard - Cabernet Rosé

$16.95 - **Ontario** - LCBO #177840 & winery

There's a nice colour that makes one want to dive into the glass; then the cherry-raspberry starts things off on the palate. There is a little tea-tannin tartness on the finish, but it does the job as a refresher. **Better**

Redtail Vineyards 2023 Estate Rosé

$32.00 - **Ontario** - winery

I liked the silky smooth start to the wine, it was playful across the tongue, delivered on raspberry, peach and melond rind before disappearing and leaving me that take-another-sip quality. **Good+**

Schatz Winery 2022 Sortarosa Marquette

*$20.00 - **Ontario** - winery*

Last time I tasted a Marquette I truly enjoyed was also in a rosé format; namely a sparkling. This is the first stil rosé and it has blown me away at how good it is. This is a fun, fruity frolic where cherry meets strawberry and white peach - length is wonderful and long. **Better+**

Tawse 2022 Sketches Rosé

*$18.95 - **Ontario** - LCBO #172643*

Think lemon-lime and cherry; now think of it in your glass. That's a day wasted. **Good+**

The Grange of Prince Edward 2023 Estate Vineyard Series Rosé

*$24.00 - **Ontario** - winery*

Peach nose leads to a pear, apple, lemon and raspberry palate - the kicker is the strawberry finish. **Better**

Three Dog Winery 2023 Cabernet Franc Rosé

*$23.80 - **Ontario** - winery*

This is a simple rosé sipper that got a lovely lemon-lime note with a whiff of raspberry. **Good**

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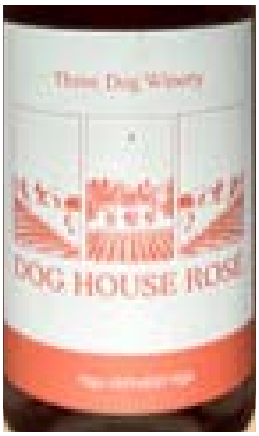
Two Guys Talking Wine

Still Rosé Wines ... cont'd

Three Dog Winery 2023 Dog House Rosé



*$16.75 - **Ontario** - winery*

Peaches and melon kick things off. Jolly Rancher cherry then comes into play and there is plenty of acid punch on the finish. **Better**

Trius 2022 Rosé

*$19.95 - **Ontario** - LCBO #341743*

Citrus and melon rind are on full display here and it still makes the mouth happy - which is what rosé is all about. **Better**

Trius 2023 Rosé

$19.95 - Ontario - LCBO #341743 / winery

Trius moves away from the footed bottle to a more traditional style and in the process shows a more serious side to rosé ... cherry popsicle, including the stick, and some Jolly Rancher sourness. This is the serious side of Peller Family rosés and it will find its fans at the dinner table. **Good**

Two Sisters 2022 Margo

*$37.80 - **Ontario** - winery*

This Cabernet Franc dominant rosé is fresh with lemon ... wait, sip three brings out a totally familiar and ultimately enjoyable cherry-lemonade note and that is so much fun on a summer afternoon. **Better**

Villa Romana Estate Winery 2021 Rosellino

*$23.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Fresh and playful with notes of cotton candy and watermelon. **Good+**

Watchful Eye Winery 2023 Rosé

*$21.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

Fruity and peachy with notes of Jolly Rancher watermelon on the mid-palate, finishing with a nice acid punch. **Better**

Wayne Gretzky 2023 Rosé

*$17.95 - **Ontario** - winery*

It has been a few years since Gretzky's made a rosé this good, it even got a slight boost based on price: loads of apple, peach, and red currant - light in colour, playful in the mouth - nice punchy acidity. This is a wonderful rosé, especially for the price. **Better+**

Westcott 2023 Pinot Noir Rosé

$26.00 - Ontario - winery

Love the floral aspect on this rosé and the seam of raspberry that runs beginning to end is a nice touch. The long finish helps too - fewer sips, more enjoyment. **Better**

Still Rosé Wines ... cont'd

3 Rostos 2023 Barrete

$NA - **Portugal** - 351 Imports

Pleasant, easy fresh and fruity. **Good**

Barcos Wines NV Pardalito

*$NA - **Portugal** - No Agent*

Refreshing and quaffable. **Good**

Casa das Hortas 2023 Saiote - Vinho Verde Rosé

$NA - **Portugal** - Churchill Cellars

Strawberry, raspberry, lime and mineral. **Good+**

Casa das Hortas 2023 Portal das Hortas Rosé

*$NA - **Portugal** - Churchill Cellars*

More concentration, less fun in the sun. Good

Casa Ermelinda Freitas 2023 Dona Ermelinda

*$NA - **Portugal** - No Agent*

Easy and fresh, but there's a little bitterness on the finish that helps balance out the semi-sweetness. **Good**

Vidigal Wines 2023 Porta 6

$11.60 - **Portugal** - LCBO #17893

Fresh, clean, mellow and easy with notes of white peach and nectarine. **Good+**

Rambla 2023 Born Rosé

*$15.95 - **Spain** - LCBO #37863*

This still rosé from Barcelona declares "rose is all we do" (or something like that) - and I will fully admit, they do it well. A heavy kick of citrus style acidity melds with unripe peach, citrus pith and a refreshingly long finish. Pick up a bunch and enjoy the summer. **Best**

Late Additions ...

Cesarini Sartori 2023 Peperosa

*$NA - **Italy** - No Agent*

Lovely strawberry and cherry, there are some tannins that come from the grape; but this has a serious side and would be a perfect pairing for grilled meats done for a summer BBQ. **Better**

Le Cimate 2023 Saudade (Nostalgia)

*$NA - **Italy** - Cottonwood*

A rosato that's fresh and clean, though there is a little grit from Sagrantino grape: strawberry-lemon (both) rind / pith ... tough grape to work with, but the finished product is nice. **Good+**

And for Dessert ...

Sandeman NV Beat Portonic Rose

*$NA - **Portugal** - Charton-Hobbs*

Uniquely Portuguese, rose port ... what do you do with it? Mix it: cocktails, sangria, ice and fruit - your choice. **Good**

Thank yous

A big thank you to all who gave their opinion this year, last year and the four other times I've created this report. For those who dedicated their taste buds to the cause (Erica, Sue, Cam, Claudia, John). To those who added their advice and opinion about the look and feel of the report, and push me to do better each and every year (Ofelia) … Each of you contribute in your own way and I truly appreciate the help - even though there are times I push back and seem resistant to change … It's part of the human condition, to dislike change and remain in our comfort zone- I appreciate the push.

Thank you to the wineries and agents to whom I owe my gratitude for sending wines in to taste – without your dedication to making asnd importing wines, this report would not exist.

An even bigger thank you to those who support The Rosé Report with sponsorship – I know advertising dollars are stretched and that a certain organization has a monopoly over where much of those dollars go. I appreciate those who support and respect independent journalism.

Thank you to all those I have argued and offended over the years – I'm passionate about my opinions and seem to share them more often and with more vigor than I used to; sometimes, as my podcast partner, André, points out, I'm the lone man standing outside yelling at clouds. Thank you all for your indulgence and patience.

And finally, a thank you to Stella, who lies patiently waiting for her walk, while "daddy" writes "one more review" which turns into 10, which turns into an hour and a look of "where's my dinner?" Sorry for ignoring you …. We can go for that walk now.

Thank you all for reading.
Have a great summer.
Remember, Rosé can be enjoy all year it's summer-vibes and good times any time.

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