

Okanagan Wine Tour

Vancouver to Kelowna

To begin your Okanagan Wine Tour, first pick up your RV in Calgary or Vancouver and head to Kelowna. Calgary to Kelowna is a lengthy stretch of 600 Kms (379 miles) so it would be thoughtful of you to pick up your RV the previous day or paying for an early pickup to help you to get to Kelowna while it's still bright. From Vancouver, the drive is a little shorter at 388km.

From both locations, you'll arrive later in the evening, so it's a good idea to make sure you have your campground booked in advance.

Driving Distance – 389 KM

Kelowna

Take a tour of some of the wineries on the east side of Kelowna today. Camelot Vineyards is a new winery, and House of Rose is nestled among apple orchards on the outskirts of Kelowna. It is famous for its Winter Wine, a secret blend of ice wine and grapes harvested late in the fall. Okanagan Wine Country Tours offers a variety of tours and takes care of planning and transportation for you.

Kelowna to Penticton

We suggest you start your tour and tastings this morning at Sumac Ridge Estate Winery in Summerland. Known as one of the pioneer wineries of the BC wine industry, Sumac Ridge produces a wide range of excellent wines, including the sparkling Brut that few Okanagan winemakers produce.

Your next stop in Summerland is Thornhaven Winery, located in a quaint little valley overlooking Okanagan Lake. Dirty Laundry Winery is located just two blocks away. These two wineries are essential settings for the Okanagan winery and should not be missed.

After crossing through the heart of Penticton, you will enter the Naramata Bench, home to more than 15 wineries with stunning views and vineyards on the way.

At Hillside Estate Winery, consider eating lunch at the Barrel Room Bistro. It is the ideal place to avoid the midday heat, with its high ceilings and cool shaded patio. This is a perfect opportunity to try a wine that is popular in Okanagan - a Riesling or maybe a Sauvignon Blanc. It's time for as many wineries to tour as you feel up to. Within minutes of each other, they are all located.

Driving Distance – 63 KM

Penticton to Osoyoos

Stop by the Okanagan VQA Wine Store, located at the Visitor Information Centre, before you leave Penticton. It offers a complete range of wines from one end of the valley to the other.

Head south toward the desert region of Canada and the town of Osoyoos on Highway 97. Stop at Tickleberry's for some coffee or ice cream—they have the best ice cream in the valley!

Take Green Lake Road from Okanagan Falls to your first winery visit of the day at See Ya Later Ranch Winery, previously known as Hawthorne Mountain Estate Winery. Originally planted in the early part of the last century as an orchard, this winery has terrific wines, a fabulous view and a unique vineyard facing north-east.

Consider halting at the Toasted Oak Bar and Grill in Oliver to have lunch. Known as the Canada Wine Capital, Oliver is a strong and prosperous community that is home to the popular Grape and Tomato Festival. The Toasted Oak has a vast array of B.C. Wines by the glass and a special menu with many ingredients from this area.

Please enjoy your afternoon visiting the Burrowing Owl Winery. This is a vast estate winery which produces some of the most sought after wines from B.C. Buy them at the winery, because somewhere they're hard to find. Then it's on to sample the Tinhorn Creek Estate wines. Nestled on a hillside next to a former gold mining creek, this winery is close to the site of an old ghost town. Just down the road is one of the early pioneers and best-known success stories in Canada's wine industry, Inniskillin Winery. It was born in Ontario in 1975 and formed a winemaking partnership with the Inkameep Indian Band in 1994 by buying the extraordinary 23-acre Dark Horse Vineyard from the band.

Driving Distance – 63 KM

Osoyoos

You will find yourself in the world-famous "Pocket Desert" here in Osoyoos, a semi-arid South Okanagan shrub-steppe zone containing many species of plants not found anywhere in Canada. Spend the afternoon at the Desert Centre of Nk'Mip. This state-of-the-art location honors the housing of the Okanagan First Nations for thousands of years. You will find Nk'Mip

Cellars right next door to the Desert Centre. The winery site is one of the most attractive with excellent views in a landscape of natural beauty in the South Okanagan. The vineyards and orchards, set on a bench overlooking the shores of Osoyoos Lake, offer a breathtaking contrast to the desert landscape.

Osoyoos to Peachland

Take Highway 3 out of Okanagan this morning as you leave Osoyoos, ascending the scenic Richter Pass to the neighboring Similkameen Valley. Similkameen River and Forbidden Fruit Organic Winery are your first stop today. You'll find Seven Stones Winery west of Osoyoos. The name of the vineyard comes from the legend of the seven individual rock formations known as the Seven Stones in the Similkameen Valley.

Head to Crowsnest Vineyards after these trips, located on an orchard and vineyard bench overlooking the stunning Cascade Mountains. Take in the sights on their vineyard side patio and

enjoy the ideal pairing of a German varietal wine and delicious cuisine! Other near-by vineyards include Rustic Roots and Orofino.

To visit the Grist Mill & Gardens, ride on to Keremeos and stop. On the outskirts of town, just west of Keremeos, you'll find K Mountain Winery. Some excellent red and white wines and even ice wine are produced by this winery. Take highway 3A towards Kaladan from Keremeos. The Robin Ridge Winery is along this road and here you can buy their wines. Travel back north through Penticton toward Peachland on Highway 97. You may want to drop in on some of the wineries along the way that you didn't have time for when you first traveled down this road. From the veranda at Greata Ranch, one of the most spectacular places to view the sparkling waters of Okanagan Lake. Without a refreshing glass of their award winning wine, your experience wouldn't be perfect.

Driving Distance – 98 KM

[Peachland to Kelowna](#)

You'll find Hainle Vineyards & Winery Bistro a little past Peachland. Take the opportunity to eat here if you are hungry.

The West Kelowna vineyards, surrounded by the Okanagan hills, offer more chances to sample and savour some great wines. A variety of tour options are provided by larger wineries such as Mission Hill, while smaller wineries such as Little Straw only have tastings. Other wineries are Meadow Vista, Rollingdale Winery, Kalala, Beaumont, Mt Boucherie and Quails' Gate in West Kelowna.

Driving Distance – 25 KM

[Kelowna to Shuswap Lake](#)

Travel via Vernon to Shuswap Lake for your overnight stop. Just north of Lake Country, we recommend you check out a few small wineries on the east banks of Lake Okanagan. Grey Monk Estate Winery tours take place regularly throughout the year and you are welcome to taste and buy from the broad range of wines they make. Next door to the Gray Monk Winery is the 'out of nothing' Ex Nihilo Winery-Latin. This Mediterranean style winery has a tasting room where a truly special taste of Okanagan Valley wine can be enjoyed. Take Highway 97A to Armstrong, after passing through Vernon.

Turn west on Landsdown Road at Armstrong and follow the signs for about six kilometers through green farmland to the Edge of the Earth Vineyards in the beautiful valley of Spallumcheen. <Next, follow Highway 97B to Salmon Arm.

Larch Hills Winery, located at 110 Timms Lane, is our last vineyard on this trip. Leave 97B at Black Road to get here and follow the signs. In festivals throughout Canada, Larch Hills produces quality cool climate wines and has received numerous awards.

Driving Distance – 153 KM



Shuswap Lake to Vancouver

As you leave Shuswap and take your preferred route back to your pick-up spot, enjoy the drive back "home" today. It is most likely that your arrival back in Vancouver or Calgary will be too late to drop off the vehicle today, so we recommend that you intend to drop off on Day 10 in the morning.

Driving Distance – 452 KM