



## Four Mile Creek

**Wineries to visit:** *Cattail Creek Estate Winery, Coyote's Run Estate Winery, Hillebrand Winery, Jackson-Triggs Niagara Estate Winery, Joseph's Estate Wines, Marynissen Estate Winery, Pillitteri Estates Winery, PondView Estate Winery and Southbrook Vineyards*

This is the largest of the four sub-appellations in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Lying below the Niagara Escarpment, slightly inland, it stretches into an expansive, flat and fertile plain. Red shale soils contain silt and clay, retaining water well. The days are warm with lots of sunshine and nights cool, rounding off the multiple conditions that make this sub-appellation optimal for growing many premium grape varieties. Many of the wineries in Four Mile Creek are found on Niagara Stone Road (also known as Highway 55) the main artery that leads visitors into the towns of Virgil and Niagara-on-the-Lake. The others are located on the east side of the highway.

The family of **Cattail Creek Estate Winery** use only the best grapes from their vineyards to make the wine for that vintage. Working with what Mother Nature has given winemaker Colin Ferguson crafts wines that reflect the family's vineyards. As a result, drinking each wine is a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

**Coyote's Run Estate Winery** offers up terroir wines with a twist. Within its vineyards are two distinctly different soil types and the winery staff can show you how the different types of earth are expressed in the wines made from grapes grown in each area, Red Paw Vineyard and Black Paw Vineyard.

Respect the classic character of each grape variety. That's the philosophy behind winemaking at **Hillebrand Winery**. If you've ever wanted an insider's look into the art of winemaking, try out the behind-the-scenes wine blending experience and bottle a masterpiece to take home. Hillebrand Winery Restaurant is something you will not want to miss. The four-diamond restaurant is open daily for lunch and dinner.

**Jackson-Triggs Niagara Estate Winery** is a state-of-the-art gravity-flow assisted winery and one of the most technologically advanced facilities in the country. That being said, a tour of this airy wood, steel and glass structure is an eye-opening experience.

**Joseph's Estate Wines** is a family-owned and family-run winery founded by Dr. Joseph Pohorly, one of Niagara's pioneering winemakers. His winery offers informative tours of its vineyards and cellars and tastings of a full portfolio of premium VQA varietal wines and unique fruit wines.

John Marynissen realized the importance of growing vinifera grapes in the early 1970s and today the vineyards of **Marynissen Estate Winery** have some of the oldest Cabernet Sauvignon vines in Ontario. This is a small winery with big wines. Tastings take place in the intimate and friendly wine boutique and the wines made here are only available on-site.

**Pillitteri Estates Winery** has established itself as the world's largest estate producer of Icewine. The renovated underground cellar has two conversation-pieces: stainless-steel chairs suspended on the walls that enclose what is arguably the largest concrete table in existence.

**PondView Estate Winery** is one of the newest wineries in Niagara-on-the-Lake, having opened for business in the summer of 2010, but it is likely the most steeped in old world traditions as it is owned and operated by the Puglisi family, third generation grape growers. The spacious winery facility and lengthy tasting bar has already made it a favourite haunt of enthusiastic tasters and larger groups.

Niagara's newest landmark is a stunning pavilion that has been awarded LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold status. Its transparent design is the work of well-known architect Jack Diamond, who has visually captured **Southbrook Vineyard's** desire to "sit lightly on the land." Southbrook is the first Canadian winery with a certified organic and biodynamic vineyard.