

The Berlin Tasting Toronto

Don Maximiano tops French Classic Lafite and Italian Super Tuscan Sassicaia and Tignanello

In a blind tasting held in Toronto, Don Maximiano Founder's Reserve 2003 was ranked above world class wines Château Lafite 2000, Sassicaia 2000 and Tignanello 2000, by the most reputed Canadian wine journalist, sommeliers and connoisseurs.



Rosewater Room in downtown Toronto.

On October 5th, 2006, the prestigious Rosewater Room in downtown Toronto was the perfect setting for the reenactment in Canada of the Berlin Tasting which originally took place in Berlin in 2004. This tasting became a milestone for the Chilean wine industry, when Viñedo Chadwick 2000 and Seña 2001 were ranked atop French classics Château Margaux, Château Lafite and Château Latour and Italian Super Tuscan Sassicaia and Tignanello, vintages 2000 and 2001.

This time, organized by Vintages, sixty specially invited guests were among the tasting panel which included wine journalists from all over Canada, sommeliers, buyers from selected restaurants and clubs together with LCBO product consultants.

The tasting was moderated by Steven Spurrier, one of the United Kingdom's most prestigious wine journalist and critic and Shari Mogk-Edwards, LCBO's Vintages Sales Director.



From left to right: Steven Spurrier, Eduardo Chadwick and Tom Wilson, Vice President of Vintages.

The Berlin Tasting, January 2004	
Rank	Wine
1	Viñedo Chadwick 2000
2	Seña 2001
3	Château Lafite 2000
4	Château Margaux 2001
4	Seña 2000
6	Château Margaux 2000
6	Château Latour 2000
6	Viñedo Chadwick 2001
9	Don Maximiano Founder's Reserve 2001
10	Château Latour 2001
10	Solaia 2000

Ranking The Berlin Tasting Canada 2006	
Rank	Wine
1	Château Margaux 2000
2	Château Latour 2000
3	Don Maximiano Founder's Reserve 2003
4	Tignanello 2000
5	Seña 2003
5	Viñedo Chadwick 2000
7	Seña 2000
8	Viñedo Chadwick 2003
9	Château Lafite 2000
10	Sassicaia 2000



Don Maximiano Estate, Aconcagua Valley

Francisco Baettig, Chief Winemaker of Viña Errázuriz, on Don Maximiano Founder's Reserve 2003.

Deep, dark chocolate and enticing cedar aromas appear first on the nose, followed by wafting notes of blackberry jam and crème de cassis. The firm, well-structured palate features robust yet sweet tannins and a broad range of

flavors ranging from black cherry and red fruits carried along by the richness of its oak and caramel notes. It's long and smooth now, with an intriguing character that will continue to develop for years to come. Decanting is suggested.

