

food feature

The Culinary JEWEL of Naramata... COBBLESTONE Wine Bar

By Lisa Harrison

as the over-all winner of the BC Wine List Awards (presented at the Okanagan Fall Wine Festival) the Cobblestone Wine Bar (CWB) is a popular destination in Naramata. It is known for its expansive selection of vintages, and also for the lovely ambiance in which the wines are served plus the quality of cuisine for tasty pairings. Patrons can enjoy their choice of 16 wines by the glass (eight red and eight white) during high season and eight wines by the glass in the springtime. More than 200 wines, including a modest international selection, are available by the bottle.

“Our win is a testament to the wonderful and high quality wines produced by our neighbours, our winemakers and our friends,” says general manager and co-owner Norm Davies. “In the end, we are



*Facing Page: Naramata Heritage Inn
Wine Bar Patio, the happening place
in Naramata*



Naramata Heritage Inn, the culinary jewel of Naramata

merely the conduit through which they showcase their talent.”

Located in the 103-year-old Naramata Heritage Inn, the CWB is rich with character. When Norm, his wife Janette and his brother-in-law Keith Leach began their renovation project in 1998, they embraced the historic beauty of the 12-suite building while creating new dining areas to accentuate the natural scenery.

“Being constructed to replicate the Spanish missions of southern California, its original intent was to showcase the laid back Okanagan lifestyle and climate,” says Norm. “In our restoration, we made every effort to stay as true to its original design as possible — right down to the double hung, mouth-blown plate glass windows, pillared verandas and original furnishings. It exudes old style comfort. In that vein, the community of Naramata itself is very much what makes this building a success. It is relaxed, courteous, delicious and somewhat introspective.”

The restored landmark opened in 2001 and the CWB was one of the first eateries to feature an extensive selection of wines by the glass with a focus on B.C. wineries. A decade later, it is surrounded by 22 boutique wineries making the CWB a perfect place to relax after sampling and sightseeing. On warm days, the two-tiered patio is frequently filled with visitors enjoying the outstanding collection of wines and enticing cuisine.

For a light meal, CWB offers their signature hearth bread platters

with made-to-order loaves baked in a rock oven complemented by charcuterie. Entrees range from \$12–\$18 for lunch and \$16–\$32 for dinner. Slow-braised Alberta short ribs are a popular dish prepared by Executive Chef Thomas Render, who begins his sixth season this year.

Rarely does a sojourn into history include such tempting culinary treasures. The CWB achieves it all amid Naramata’s natural beauty.

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The warm ambiance of the Cobblestone Wine Bar offers cozy dining

