

CHOOSE LOVE WINE

2021 STRATUS 'CHOOSE LOVE' RED



VINTAGE REPORT

Defined by highly variable weather, 2021 was unpredictable from start to finish. The year started with warmer than average January temperatures. Spring settled into predictably seasonal temperatures and generally dry conditions – a great start to the growing season. Despite some unexpected scattered rain and severe thunderstorms, extreme heat and drought were the predominant challenges faced in August. Unstable weather in the Fall presented challenging harvest conditions. Rain and humidity at inopportune times required a strategic approach to picking grapes at their peak.

GRAPE VARIETIES

34% Cabernet Franc, 32% Merlot, 18% Petit Verdot, 7% Malbec, 6% Tannat, 2% Syrah, 1% Cabernet Sauvignon

VITICULTURE

Harvest: November 5 - December 7

APPELLATION

VQA Niagara-on-the-Lake
Vineyard Origin: Stratus Vineyards

DATA AT BOTTLING

Alcohol: 13.5%

The new Choose Love Reserve Red is extremely limited. With just 2 barrels, there's less than 600 bottles of the Choose Love Reserve Red 2021 that will be available and that's it!

WHY CHOOSE LOVE

Choose Love wines came together with partners, Patti Thomas, Bob Castellani and Michael Hibbard. Michael, a restaurateur in Lewiston reached out to Bob about developing Choose Love wines based on Patti's artwork. Bob's company, Specialty Cellars, imports sustainably farmed, handcrafted wines including several artisan wineries in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario such as Stratus and Reif Estate.

The partners wanted to have something special with a very limited release so went to visit Stratus to barrel taste their 2021 vintage barrels and settled on 2 fantastic barrels. Our plan is to have a limited release like this each year. Also, a donation from the sale of the Choose Love Reserve Red will go back to the community. Locally, A portion of the proceeds from the sale of Choose Love Wine will be donated to The Urban League of Buffalo, NY. "I hope that Choose Love Wine will inspire people to choose love over hate, to have a conversation as opposed to walking away from an opportunity to learn from each other" said Thomas. "We all have the power to make a difference."

Choose Love Wine
www.chooselovewine.com