

Canada - White

93

Hidden Bench 2005 Chardonnay Tête de Cuvee
Beamsville Bench, Ontario

A selection of the best five barrels —*tête de cuvee*, as the French say. It's certainly among the best chardonnays Ontario has produced, a big wine at 14.1 per cent alcohol, and unfiltered for extra richness. But at the same time it possesses such silky finesse. The nose is compote of poached pear, vanilla cream, lemon meringue pie and roasted almonds — very sensuous and well layered. Outstanding length. Should age through 2012(DL)
ON \$50 winery

Canada - Red

94

Hidden Bench 2005 La Brunante, Rosomel Vineyard
Beamsville Bench, Niagara Peninsula, Ontario,
Canada

Very open, fragrant, pure blackberry, black raspberry, smells serious and expensive. Polished new oak notes, coffee, chocolate, loads of complexity. Dry, fullish, juicy, medium+ but ripe and nicely integrated and melting tannins. Has the freshness and purity of great 2005 Bordeaux. Long, flavourful finish. Just starting to drink now. (JS)
ON \$70

14. Hidden Bench Vineyards and Winery Inc. -

Performance Score: 4,183.49

Submitted: 12 Gold: 1 Silver: 2 Bronze: 4

Top five wines

- 2007 Felseck Vineyard Gewurztraminer (Single Vineyard)
- 2005 Rosomel Vineyard La Brunante
- 2006 Rosomel Vineyard Nuit Blanche
- 2007 Estate Riesling
- 2005 Rosomel Vineyard Nuit Blanche(Single Vineyard)