







30 wineries, many of which offer romantic wedding spaces.

For "la dolce vita" ambience, it's hard to beat the lovely **LaStella Winery** (*lastella.ca*) with its Italian-style villa, rolling vineyards and wideopen lake views. Options for a ceremony or reception include its pretty lakeside patio, expansive lawn, or the winery itself, which features Murano glass lighting and a Juliet balcony perfect for photos.

Tinhorn Creek Vineyards (tinhorn.com), which recently celebrated its 20th anniversary, offers another popular spot to tie the knot.

Offering panoramic views of the valley below, Tinhorn's outdoor amphitheatre serves as a





dramatic ceremony space, while the winery's glass-walled Miradoro Restaurant provides an airy and inviting reception space. On its menu, Miradoro focuses on fresh regional ingredients served with Mediterranean flair — plus, of course, selections from Tinhorn Creek's famed wines. Whichever local venue you choose for your big day, just be sure to toast your smart decision to marry in sunny, nearby Osoyoos.

## >>>>>TO DO LIST

Want to keep your guests entertained while in Osoyoos? Consider these unique options:

- ► ARTISAN CULINARY CONCEPTS: Former Burrowing Owl Estate Winery chef Chris Van Hooydonk has opened up his Osoyoos home for hands-on gourmet cooking (and eating!) classes focusing on farm-to-table fare — a fun option for a stagette or any lively
- ▶ OSOYOOS DESERT CENTRE: Slick on the sunscreen for a leisurely boardwalk stroll through this interpretive centre, with a guide sharing all you ever wanted to know about the plant and animal life of Canada's only desert. desert.org

group. artisanculinaryconcepts.com

► COVERT FARMS: Get back to the land in a guided tour of this organic farm and vineyard, where you can ride in a vintage 1952 red Mercury truck, stopping to pick and sample everything from sun-warmed peaches to tomatoes and strawberries.

## ▶ JOY ROAD VINEYARD KITCHEN:

Head to Black Hills Estate Winery for a tasting and stop for a gourmet lunch. At the winery, the renowned Joy Road Catering team has installed a shipping container converted into a custom kitchen, from which it churns out impeccable lunches using the freshest local ingredients. blackhillswinery.com

CHARTERS: Planning a day of wine touring? Why drive, when you can relax in air-conditioned comfort in a luxury SUV, sprinter van or mini coach. Create a private custom tour, or choose from pre-set excursions ranging from tasting visits to full-day wine-and-dine packages. landseaokanagan.com

60 real weddings PLANNING GUIDE 2015

WINERY WEDDINGS

If you've always dreamed of a vineyard wedding,

but Tuscany is out of reach, the Okanagan Valley

neighbouring Oliver area is home to more than

has got you covered. The Osoyoos and