

# Wines of the Finger Lakes



## Featured Selection

### 2007 TIERCE RED

In 2004, Johannes Reinhardt of the Anthony Road Wine Company got an idea. Throughout his five years in the Finger Lakes, the German-born winemaker had been impressed by the collaborative spirit of the region. As he later told James Molesworth of *Wine Spectator*, he'd never before experienced a wine region "where people have been more humble, down to earth, and willing to work together." Wanting to capitalize on that, he decided to initiate a collaboration.

Reinhardt approached two Seneca Lake winemakers, Dave Whiting of Red Newt Cellars and Peter Bell of Fox Run Vineyards, with the idea of creating a unique wine from grapes grown at their three wineries. Whiting and Bell agreed enthusiastically. They decided to name the project Tierce, referring to the involvement of three winemakers and three vineyards.

The first vintage of Tierce was the 2004 Riesling. The trio chose to focus on Riesling



for their initial effort, as they felt it best reflected the quality that could be achieved in the Finger Lakes. Three years later, the "Tierce brothers" chose to take advantage of an unusually warm year and produce a red wine. They spent long and sometimes frustrating hours blending and tasting to produce the first—and to this day only—Tierce Red.

The product of their efforts is a blend of 33 percent Merlot, 33 percent Lemberger, 12 percent Syrah, 11 percent Cabernet Franc, and 11 percent Cabernet Sauvignon. This lovely wine could be, perhaps, a bit of a shock to those who have not tasted a successful Finger Lakes red. It exhibits hints of black cherry, plum, cedar, and vanilla, and its fresh, lively flavors culminate in a long, elegant finish. Johannes Reinhardt believes it should be enjoyable for at least another five years. The retail price is \$30 per bottle at the Anthony Road website: [www.anthonyroadwine.com](http://www.anthonyroadwine.com).

— Dave Pohl

*Dave Pohl, MA '79, is a wine buyer at Northside Wine & Spirits in Ithaca.*

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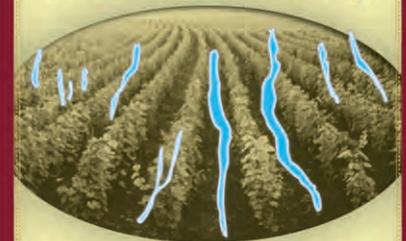


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