



## Israel Business and Technology Connection

A Jewish Community Relations Council Initiative

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### Helpful Links

- [Israeli Wine Portal](#) (articles, general info)
- [Israel Wine Industry Information Sheet](#)
- [Rogov's Overview of Israeli Wine](#)
- [Rogov's Guide to Israeli Wines 2007](#) (Hard Copy)
- [Royal Wine Corp.](#) (distributors of Carmel, Barkan, Binyamina, Gamla and other brands)
- [Carmel Winery](#)
- [Golan Heights Winery](#)
- [Wine Tourism in Israel](#)

## Israel and Its World Class Wines

This special IBTEC issue is dedicated to Israel and its world class wine industry

### Featured Event

*Don't miss an exclusive Israeli Wine Tasting event*  
**"A Wine Tour of Israel"**

*Featuring a dazzling array of award winning wines from the Holy Land*

**Thursday, September 6, 7:30 pm**

**Provisions Gourmet Market**

**11615 Olive Blvd [Map](#)**

To RSVP call 314-442-3871 or [jrcrstl@jrcrstl.org](mailto:jrcrstl@jrcrstl.org)

*Sponsored by the Israel Business & Technology Committee (IBTEC)  
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### Brief Overview of Israeli Wine

#### Israeli Wines: Boutiques Go Mainstream *(The Federation of Israeli Commerce)*

Wine has been a part of Jewish tradition and heritage for more than 2,000 years, but it wasn't until the 1880s, when agricultural advisors to Baron Edmond de Rothschild recommended planting vineyards in the sandy soil of pre-state Israel, that the "modern" era of Israeli winemaking was ushered in. In 1882, with the support of the Baron, the [Carmel Wine Company](#) was founded. Planting some of the first grapes from cuttings imported from India, those early pioneers battled tremendous odds and reaped few rewards. It wasn't until 1895 that Carmel started marketing wines coming out of wineries in Rishon Lezion and Zichron Ya'akov, and it took nearly another 70 years until Carmel sold and exported "varietals" such as Cabernet Sauvignon.



#### The Young Upstart

It's only been in the past 20 years that Israeli wines have liberated themselves from the sticky corner of the wine shop's kosher section. [The Golan Heights Winery](#) is not only one of the country's top three wineries but is generally credited with spearheading the country's "wine revolution" in 1983. Taking the advice of experts, Golan farmers from eight kibbutzim and moshavim planted vineyards of white (sauvignon) grapes. In an article on the winery that appeared in [Israel 21c](#) ("[Drunk with the flavor of success](#)," May 2003), "the combination of wide diurnal and annual temperature ranges, high altitude, and rich volcanic soil created optimal conditions for [growing] grapes." The rest is history. The winery today produces 5.4 million bottles of wine annually, has an 18% share of the domestic market, a 38% share of the export market, and exports to more than 25 countries around the world.

The Cabernets and Chardonnays coming out of the winery put Israeli wines in a new league and paved the way for the next generation — the boutiques. [Read more](#)

## History of Wine Industry in Israel *(By Daniel Rogov)*

*How wine from the land of Israel evolved throughout history*

The history of wine in the land of Israel is as old as the history of the people who have inhabited the land over the centuries. As early as 5,000 years ago people cultivated vines and made, stored, and shipped wines. [Read more](#)



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## Overview of Leading Wineries *(By Daniel Rogov)*

*An introduction to the leading wineries*

The Carmel-Mizrachi Winery: By far the largest wine producer in the country, currently producing in excess of 13 million bottles annually, and now in their 115th year, Carmel produces three series that will be of interest to sophisticated drinkers. The most prestigious and often best wines of Carmel are those in the "Private Collection" series. Included among these are some high quality Cabernet Sauvignons, Merlot, Sauvignon Blancs, Chardonnay and Emerald Rieslings. The less expensive "Selected" series offers wines of the same varieties as well as a red Petit Sirah and whites such as Chenin Blanc and French Colombard. In the "Vineyard" series one finds, among others, Dry Muscat, an especially pleasing crisply dry but remarkably fruity white. The winery also produces a Sparkling Chardonnay, a white Muscat based sweet dessert wine and "Hiluleem" - young, fun and fruity red and white wines that are always among the first wines to appear after the grape harvest. [Read more about the other wineries](#)

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## Israeli boutique wineries make the grade *(Israel21c)*

An innovator in high tech, biotech, and electronics has come to define Israel in recent years. Now that same innovative spirit is coming to the fore in Israel's vineyards.

No less than 24 Israeli wineries are included in Hugh Johnson's Pocket Wine Book 2007. A number of wineries received stars for the first time, proving that Israeli wines continue to compete on an international level. [Read more](#)



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### About the e-newsletter

Welcome to [IBTEC's](#) e-newsletter. This monthly e-newsletter will bring you updates on the various aspects of Israel's business and technology developments to the St. Louis community. You will also find updates from the Yokneam-Megiddo region-a sister region to St. Louis, as well as connectable and actionable items. We hope you enjoy it.

**About [IBTEC](#).** The Israel Business and Technology Committee ([IBTEC](#)) is a [JCRC](#) initiative that focuses on Israel's business and technology sector, sharing with the St. Louis business and technology community the outstanding opportunities Israel offers in this area.