TOURISM NOVA SCOTIA

Accessibility Spotlight:

1365 Church Street Vineyard and Winery

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1365 Church Street Vineyard & Winery is a family-run winery that offers on-site tastings, tours, and retail sales of its wine products.

Established in 2015, the winery is fully selfsufficient, producing everything on-site. The wine-making is done by John Eikelenboom, his wife Amber, and their head winemaker, Patrick Canteni.

John and Amber want to make everyone feel like they are visiting their home, not just another business.



Owners sitting outside © 1365 Church Street Vineyard and Winery



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The vineyard and winery have implemented measures to be accessible to everyone, to make everyone feel welcome and accommodated.

"Our winery vibe is 'Welcome to our Home,' and we want everyone to feel welcome and appreciated."

— Amber Eikelenboom

The staff at 1365 Church Street Vineyard and Winery have been instructed that everyone is a guest in their 'home' and to make sure that everyone feels appreciated.

The property is wheelchair accessible, providing a ramp up to the winery door and support rails to make movement easier for everyone.

Upon arrival, guests with disabilities can find signs for designated, preferred parking to enable access.



At 1365 Church Street Vineyard and Winery the entire driveway and processing area (which are part of the tours) are paved to ensure easier access for all visitors. The deck is also fully accessible, and the furniture can be easily moved to accommodate everyone.

Accessibility does not stop at the entrance. The spacious washrooms allow room for mobility devices and wheelchairs to move around inside. Various support rails are provided, and a lowered, accessible toilet paper dispenser and waste bin.



Accessible washroom © 1365 Church Street Vineyard and Winery

The motivation for making the business accessible is to make everyone feel welcome, and the winery wants to make it easy for people to come and enjoy their property.



Spacious, accessible patio © 1365 Church Street Vineyard and Winery

1365 Church Street Vineyard and Winery are constantly working to make their location more welcoming. They are building a new tasting room/event center, keeping in mind accessibility components to allow everyone to come and enjoy the property.

What is the winery's advice for other businesses? Take it slow and steady, ask other business owners for advice, and love what you do.

"We want everyone to feel like you're coming to see John and Amber, not just another business... The successes [are] our guests and when they share with us that they have enjoyed their visit. Meeting new people and getting to know them, welcoming them into an extension of our home, has been wonderful"

— Amber Eikelenboom