

The Cellar Club Inc



Established in 1980

February 2023 Newsletter

Celebrating the Wines of Victoria, Australia

With Keith Tibble

Wednesday 8th February

Door Price: Members \$14 / Guests \$18



There is much to admire and emulate in the wines of Australia. For many members such wines may well be amongst your favourites. Perhaps such wines are from South Australia, perhaps Western Australia, but for this tasting to kick the year off for the club we are highlighting Victoria.

For many wine enthusiasts the wines of this state fly under the radar. If so, you are missing a treat. On a much smaller scale than the neighbouring South Australian state, the wines of Victoria have their own charm, distinctiveness and award-winning status. And some plantings are indeed old vines.

As with NZ there are a number of different vineyard regions within the Victorian state and some well-known vineyards which we will explore under the guidance of Keith Tibble from EuroVintage, who is very well acquainted with these wines.

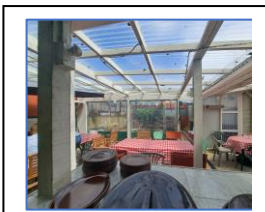
Across the state from the south (Mornington) to the central near Melbourne (Yarra Valley) to the interior (Grampians, Murray River) there is a diversity and quality that elicits awards and a dedicated following

- Y **Mount Langhi** (Ghiran) is an extremely famous cool climate-based winery in the Grampian range of Northern Victoria. Established 1969 by the Fratin Family the site had been planted (like Hawkes Bay's Te Mata) back in the late 1890s; after one poor and difficult year in 1980 the Fratin's decided they needed a consultant and hired the noted winemaker Trevor Mast. Six years later Trevor his wife and partner Ian Menzies purchased the varied blocks and started to develop the concept of Cool Climate (Victorian) Shiraz a personal vision of Trevor and one that has led Mount Langhi to be regarded as one of Australia's greatest shiraz producers. We will taste two shiraz wines the superb but great value Billi Billi and the superb 'Mast' awarded 96/100 in Decanter.
- Y **Yering Station** is an acclaimed producer almost as famous for its cellar door and restaurant as their amazing Yarra Valley Wines. Originally the first grapes were planted in 1838 by the Ryrie brothers, this was Victoria's first winery and was right up to the 1980s the largest Victorian vineyard. Purchased by the Rathebone Family in 1996, Yering Station is sister to Yarrabank a sparkling producer jointly owned with a champagne House Devaux. However Yering is famous for its Burgundy style wines - Chardonnay and Pinot Noir - and we will taste the legendary reserve chardonnay along with two superb Pinots the superb Yering station 2021 and the amazing value Village 2021.

Let's Look Out for Each Other

As always, please if you are feeling unwell, do not attend the evening's presentation. Thanks

Looking Back – Club BBQ at Derek's



The BBQ at Derek's was the usual success with the weather playing its part.

Thanks to everyone who brought a salad or a dessert, but special thanks to:

- Y Anne for her painting and sprucing up of the area
- Y Derek for letting us use his home and welcoming us all once again



Looking Ahead

- Y **March** – Forrest Estate
- Y **April** – tbc
- Y **May** - AGM



Rosé & Raspberry [or Strawberry] Mimosa

3-4 raspberries or strawberries, plus extra to serve

30ml Chambord

750ml sparkling Rosé

1. Add 3-4 raspberries [or strawberries] into a cocktail shaker and muddle
2. Add Chambord to cocktail shaker, stir gently
3. Strain raspberry [or strawberries] and Chambord mixture into a Champagne flute
4. Top with chilled sparkling Rosé
5. Garnish with extra fruit and a mint leaf (opt) on a cocktail pick or toothpick.

The eighth year of the popular wine celebration is fast approaching and now is the perfect time to get your pink party plans in order.

1. **Love Local** - Rosé lovers in NZ have found a taste for lighter, drier, more savoury styles such as those you would find in Provence and Kiwi wineries are responding to consumer preferences by successfully crafting Rosé wines inspired by iconic French estates
2. **It Pairs Perfectly** – Rosé is incredibly food-friendly and pairs with a variety of dishes and cuisines. Invite family and friends over for Rosé o'clock, a pink long lunch, or Rosé dinner party on the day.
3. **There's a Style for Everyone** – NZ wineries are producing a delicious line-up of top-quality Rosé wines that are fruit-forward, crisp and sophisticated. Wine lovers are spoilt with a wide variety of styles, sweetness levels and price points now, with the premium Rosé category experiencing a significant increase over the years.
4. **NZ Rosé Keeps Rising** – Rosé is the fastest growing wine style in the country and sales have doubled in recent years.

NZ made Rosé is not only popular at home, but the locally made pink drink is now the fourth largest NZ wine export.

A huge 7.9 million litres have been exported globally in 2021, which is double of 2018 when NZ exported 8.6 million litres of Rosé and 10 times that of 2010 at just 0.56 million litres, according to NZ Winegrowers statistics.

According to IWSR Drinks Market Analysis, the Rosé category is forecasted to grow by almost 70 percent from 2020 to 2024.

Screwcaps

Screwcaps are still very welcome, please bring these along to any Club meeting and leave them with Anne, remembering that the cause that benefits from this collection is Kidney Kids NZ and their families.

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