



June 28, 2021

Experts to taste test Australia's finest wines

Judging of the prestigious Royal Queensland Wine Show (RQWS) started at the Brisbane Showgrounds today, with more than 1,500 bottles in the running to be crowned Australia's best.

Chief Judge and renowned winemaker Jim Chatto and a team of 16 judges will taste 1,510 wines from 213 Australian wineries over the next four days.

Mr Chatto said the judging team was excited, especially after last year's Royal Queensland Wine Show was cancelled due to COVID-19.

"This year we have two new awards celebrating both the old and new of the Australian wine industry, with awards for the Best Grenache and Best Varieties of Italian origin of show," he said.

"We also have an award for the best small batch or experimental wine of show, towards encouraging innovation and experimentation across the industry.

"I am looking forward to tasting and awarding some of the very best in Australian wines this week."

The producer of Australia's best wine will be awarded the coveted Angelo Puglisi Grand Champion Wine of Show trophy and receive a \$12,000 RNA fellowship to be used for travel, training and education to further their winemaking skills.

Another highly sought-after accolade is the Stodart Trophy for the best red table wine of show, with 2021 the 50th year of the historic trophy being awarded.

The RQWS is the first capital city wine show of the season and the first to critically review the 2021 vintage in Australia, setting the benchmark for the industry.

The competition is also a guide for consumers, with the judges doing the hard work to let them know which drops to enjoy.

The winners will be announced on Wednesday 7 July through a virtual awards presentation.

The public will then get to sample the RQWS entries, including the medal-winners, at the exclusive Grape Grazing by Night event on Friday 9 July.

The 900 attendees will enjoy three hours of unlimited access to aisles of Australia's best wines, while indulging in the nation's finest beef, lamb, cheese and ice cream.



Media Release



WHAT: Royal Queensland Wine Show judging

WHEN: Monday 28 June to Thursday 1 July from 8.15am

WHERE: Exhibition Building - Brisbane Showgrounds, 600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills

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