



July 1, 2019

## Australia's wine experts to unearth nation's top drops

More than 1,700 entries are in the running to be crowned Australia's best, with Royal Queensland Wine Show (RQWS) judging underway at the Brisbane Showgrounds from today.

Chief Judge and renowned winemaker Jim Chatto will lead a team of 23 judges in his first year as Chief Judge, as they sniff, swirl and taste 1,706 wines from 235 Australian wineries over the next four days.

Mr Chatto said they had assembled an excellent team of judges, to find and celebrate some of the very best wines produced across Australia.

"The value of the coming together of some of Australia's great wine minds cannot be overstated," he said.

"The conversations and debates throughout judging week so often provide the green shoots for future innovation and trends in our industry.

"The big winner here - all lovers of great Australian wine."

While consumers will find out which bottles to enjoy, winemakers will also be rewarded.

The winner of the Angelo Puglisi Grand Champion Wine of Show will take home a \$12,000 RNA fellowship to be used for travel, training and education to further their winemaking skills. Another coveted award is the historic Stodart Trophy for the best red table wine of show.

The RQWS is the first capital city wine show of the season and the first to critically review the 2019 vintage in Australia, setting the benchmark for the industry.

New competition classes this year include 'wines of provenance' for red and white varieties, where winemakers have entered three different vintages of the same label.

Judging will take place until this Thursday, with the awards presentation held on Friday 12 July in the Exhibition Building at the Brisbane Showgrounds.

The public will then get the rare chance to sample the RQWS entries that evening, at Grape Grazing by Night.



## Media Release

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More than 900 wine lovers are expected to attend the event, tasting their way through the nation's finest reds, whites and sparkling, while indulging in Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show award-winning cheese, beef, lamb and ice cream.

Limited tickets are still available at [www.grapegrazingbynight.com.au](http://www.grapegrazingbynight.com.au)

**WHAT:** Royal Queensland Wine Show judging

**WHEN:** Monday 1 to Thursday 4 July. The winners will then be announced at the awards presentation on Friday 12 July from 9.30am

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

Don't forget to follow us on social media @rqfws



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