



Media Alert



2 July, 2018

'Grape' expectations at judging of Australia's best wines

Almost 1,800 bottles of wine will be sniffed, swirled and tasted over the next four days, with judging of the prestigious Royal Queensland Wine Show (RQWS) now underway at the Brisbane Showgrounds.

Renowned winemaker and Chief Judge David Bicknell will lead a team of 25 judges for the third year in a row, as they critique 1,798 wines from 254 Australian wineries.

The winemakers will be vying for the Grand Champion Wine of Show, which for the first time will see the winner take home a \$12,000 fellowship provided by the RNA, to be used for travel, training and education to further their skills and knowledge.

Other accolades include the historic Stodart Trophy for the best young red of show and Single Vineyard prize - some of the most coveted awards on the Australian wine judging landscape.

The RQWS is the first capital city wine show of the season and the first to critically review the 2018 vintage in Australia, setting the benchmark for the industry and letting consumers know which bottles to enjoy.

Judging will take place until this Thursday, with the awards presentation held on Friday 13 July in the Exhibition Building at the Brisbane Showgrounds.

The public will then get the rare chance to taste the RQWS entries, including the award-winners and new vintage of season, at the fourth Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) Grape Grazing by Night - Celebrating Australian Wine event.

More than 700 wine lovers attended last year's sold out event, tasting their way through the nation's finest reds, whites and sparkling, while indulging in RQFWS award-winning cheese, beef and lamb.

Limited tickets are still available at www.grapegrazingbynight.com.au

WHAT: Royal Queensland Wine Show judging

WHEN: Monday 2 to Thursday 5 July. Please note, the winners will not be announced until the awards presentation on Friday 13 July at 9.30am



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

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