



ROBERT OATLEY

ROBERT OATLEY VINEYARDS VINTAGE REPORT 2017

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

A solid vintage across the board for both Margaret River and Great Southern with the latter being the standout. An uncharacteristically mild summer delayed the start of harvest and some March rain provided challenging conditions that brought out the best in our growers, followed by very dry April-May. Whites are highly aromatic, chardonnays layered and with good fresh acid. The reds have plenty of colour, bright flavours and fine tannin. In all, what could've been quite precarious ended up being pretty good.



VICTORIA

Yarra Valley pinot noir fared really well this vintage, enjoying mild summer conditions, perfect for slow ripening. Wines are showing great concentration of flavour and a touch more complexity than the past couple of vintages.

NEW SOUTH WALES

We enjoyed a very good vintage in the high altitude Central Ranges (Mudgee). Winter was very wet however summer was very warm and dry, with widespread heavy rain at the very end of harvest. It was a slightly early start to harvest and the white varieties came in at optimum ripeness. The red harvests were staggered, with excellent merlot and shiraz, and some cabernet sauvignon affected by the late rain. Overall we are very pleased with the chardonnays; pinot grigio and rosé wines are fine, delicate and delicious. Early parcels of shiraz are stunning, Rhone-like and with bright red fruits.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Our South Australian vintage was excellent, with good yields of above average quality. After a late start to harvest, McLaren Vale was terrific, well-balanced vines, good crop levels of fantastic colour and flavour. There is some stand-out blocks of shiraz, the grenache rosé looks delicious, mataro intense and grenache floral and perfumed. Reds from the Barossa (Eden Valley and Barossa Valley) enjoyed ideal ripening conditions, a later than normal harvest timing and generous yields - our focus was on shiraz which was very strong.



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5 STAR WINERY