

MEDIA RELEASE
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WORLD'S BEST SOMMELIERS VISIT MCLAREN VALE

McLaren Vale Grape Wine & Tourism Association was thrilled to host 15 of the World's Best Sommeliers visiting Australia as part of Wine Australia's 'Somms of the World' program.

Coinciding with the World's 50 Best Restaurants Awards, visiting Sommeliers experienced the very best of McLaren Vale's premium food and wine offering on their one-day tour to the region.

McLaren Vale Grape Wine & Tourism Association General Manager, Jennifer Lynch was eager to showcase the region's diverse and immersive experiences.

"Hosting 15 of the world's best sommeliers in McLaren Vale within one year, let alone one day was an incredible opportunity in itself, which presented an exciting chance to demonstrate our wine region's generous hospitality and world-class food and wine offering," said Ms Lynch.

"Adelaide - South Australia's admission into the Great Wine Capitals Global Network has reaffirmed our State – and our region's - reputation for producing premium, world-class wines – a driving factor in attracting wine tourism visitors.

"We hope our guests leave with an ignited appreciation and love for our region – and we hope they share that with their colleagues and networks."

The group included sommeliers from the World's 50 Best Restaurants and the Best Sommelier in the World competition, in addition to top sommeliers in Australia and New Zealand.

Wine Australia CEO Andreas Clark is looking forward to engaging with the world's top sommeliers and emerging talent.

"This event presents a wonderful opportunity for us to engage with sommeliers who are at the top of their game and showcase the sophistication and diversity of Australian wine alongside our unique produce," said Mr Clark.

"This is the first time we have so many of the world's best and most influential sommeliers in the country at the same time.

"We look forward to immersing them in our dynamic wine culture and hope they walk away with a refreshed perspective and love of Australian wine."

Visit highlights included a Shiraz and Cabernet tasting with producers, beach cricket with Vale Brewing, followed by a sunset dinner at the iconic Star of Greece restaurant at Port Willunga.

McLaren Vale's collaborative nature, unique combination of premium wines and produce – both on farm and on the plate – with a beach lifestyle, guaranteed visitors received a truly unique and welcoming experience.

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