

32nd

**CLARE
VALLEY**

**Regional
Wine Show
2026**

Important Wine Show Dates

OPENING DATE FOR ENTRIES – Monday 3rd August 2026

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES –Monday 31st August 2026

ENTRIES: See conditions of entry on following pages.

DELIVERY OF EXHIBITS:

Monday, September 14th and Tuesday, September 15th 2026. 10am – 4pm only

Exhibits must be delivered to Knappstein Wines Cellar Door Warehouse (enter via cellar door carpark off Pioneer Ave and follow signage). **Deliveries will not be accepted at this address before or after the cut-off date.** Please contact the Association via email admin@clarevalleywine.com.au if you need to make alternative delivery arrangements. All late entries will be returned to the exhibitor at their own cost.

JUDGING:

Monday, 21st September - Wednesday 23rd September 2026

Clare Golf Club

EXHIBITOR TASTING:

Friday, 25th September 2026 9.00am – 11.00am

Clare Golf Club

TROPHY PRESENTATION EVENT:

Friday, 25th September 2026 11.30am - 3.30pm

Clare Golf Club

JUDGES:

Chair of Judges

Sarah Crowe | Winemaker/General Manager | Yarra Yering

Judges

Sam Wigan | Head Winemaker | Yalumba

PJ Charteris | Winemaker | Charteris Wines

Xavier Vigier | Beverage Manager/Sommelier | Gimlet/Apollo Inn

Skye Salter | Winemaker | Paralian Wines

Alexandra Alavoine | Winemaker | Treasury Wine Estate

Katie Spain | Journalist/Wine Writer | Freelance

2026 CLARE VALLEY WINE SHOW

CLOSING DATE OF ENTRIES
Monday 31st August 2026 at 5.00pm

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

The following conditions will apply:

1. Exhibitors must be a current Clare Valley Wine & Grape Association (CVWGA) member by finalising their contribution to the 2026 Clare Valley Wine Industry Fund. If you are unsure about whether you are a current contributor, please contact Cherry Stowman via email admin@clarevalleywine.com.au before submitting your entry
2. Entries must be accompanied by payment which can be made online via the Showrunner platform .
3. Entries can be submitted online at: <https://wineshow.awri.com.au/2026-clare-valley-wine-show>
4. Late entries will not be accepted
5. Entries without payment will not be accepted.

ENTRY FEE

Entry Fee for each entry: **\$75 (GST incl)**

Please note that entry fees are non-refundable

ENTRY FORMS

If you are unable to access the online entry system, please contact the Clare Valley Wine & Grape Association on 08 7002 8605 or email admin@clarevalleywine.com.au.

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WINE SHOW REGULATIONS

1. All classes are open for competition to Winemakers of the Clare Valley Region.

2. Companies eligible to enter the Clare Valley Wine Show shall be those who produced wines made from no less than 85% Clare Valley fruit.
3. Each bottle to contain 750 ml, 500 ml or equivalent 375 ml.
Any one wine can only be entered once in the Show.
Wine of Provenance award is exempt from this condition of entry.
4. Each exhibit to consist of:
Table Wines **4 x 750ml bottles or equivalent**
Fortified Wines **2 x 750ml bottles or equivalent**
Wine of Provenance **2x bottles of each vintage**
5. Exhibits to be packed in cartons, displaying Section Number and Class Number on the outside of the carton using the label supplied.
6. There is no limit of entries per class.
7. The trophy for Best Exhibitor of Show will be awarded to the exhibitor who has achieved the highest aggregate score from their top five scoring entries. No more than 5 entries shall be included for the calculation for this trophy. In the event of a tie, the trophy will be decided by a medal count back. If still equal, then a count back scenario on highest score/s will prevail and so on.
8. The trophy for the Best Small Producer will be awarded to the exhibitor who has achieved the highest aggregate score from their top three scoring entries. No more than 3 entries shall be included for the calculation for this trophy. In the event of a tie, the trophy will be decided by a medal count back. If still equal then a count back scenario on highest score/s will prevail and so on. To be eligible for the Small Producers Trophy, entries may be made in any class by producers who crushed less than 100 tonnes in total during the vintage from *which the entered wine was made*. The 100-tonne limit shall include any fruit crushed or bulk wine purchased for the sole use in labelled wines within the Producer's entire product range. Bulk wine purchased by the

producer will be converted to tonnes at the rate of 650 litres per tonne for compliance purposes.

Records may be required in order for the Wine Show Committee to verify this limitation.

9. The trophy for Best Single Vineyard Wine will be awarded to the best gold medal winning wine coming from a single vineyard source regardless of variety and vintage, as deemed by the Judging panel. The Single Vineyard Wines will be judged amongst the regular exhibits and the trophy can only be awarded to a gold medal wine. Exhibits eligible for the Single Vineyard Trophy must contain 100% Clare Valley fruit with a minimum of 95% from a single vineyard. The vineyard must have a single continuous defined boundary. The wine's commercial label must have reference to being produced from a single vineyard. E.g. vineyard name, wine made from a single vineyard or wording to this extent.
10. The Viticultural Trophy will be awarded to the Viticulturist/Vigneron for the Best Single Vineyard Wine. The name of the Viticulturist/Vigneron must be nominated at the time of entry to be eligible for the trophy.
11. **Section B Exhibition section** is primarily intended as a showcase of the best mature wines of the Clare Valley.
12. Sweetness specifications will apply. (See Classes as specified)
13. **Tasting Requirements**
Exhibitors of Gold medal winning wines will be notified at the conclusion of judging. Exhibitors are required to supply gold medal wines for delivery by the afternoon of Thursday 24th September 2026 in time for the Wine Show Luncheon and Trophy presentation.
Stock requirements:
 - a. 2 dozen of each gold medal wine from class 1,6, 7, 11 & 12. If a producer wins multiple gold medals in a class, they are required to supply two dozen of one of the wines and one dozen of each of the others.
 - b. 1 dozen of each gold medal wine from all other classes.**NOTE: additional wine may be requested at the discretion of the Wine Show Committee.**
Stock must be available for dispatch in order to meet the deadline for delivery.

Wines entered in an incorrect class will be disqualified.

14. Exhibits will be judged using the 100-point system.
15. An exhibitor may be awarded more than one award in any one class.
16. Entries must be made on the Association's Online Entry system through Showrunner.

Exhibitors must state the class to be entered, type of wine, vintage or approximate age, sugar level and varietal percentage where applicable.
17. No person shall be allowed to inspect any entry form after reception by the Association, until the judges' awards have been made public.
18. After the close of entries, no person will be permitted access to the Exhibits except the Judges, Stewards, Secretary and Staff until the awards have been announced.
19. Exhibits are to bear the labels supplied by the Association for that purpose and must show:
 - a. Section
 - b. Class Number
 - c. Description / Variety where required
 - d. Year of Vintage or if blended, approximate age
 - e. Exhibit Number (as supplied by the Association)
20. Exhibits of blended sparkling wines must represent the prescribed quantity already disgorged. Crown seals permitted as the final closure.
21. Exhibits of blended wines must represent the prescribed quantity already blended.
22. Exhibits of blended wines must represent the prescribed minimum average age.
23. In all classes, the stock as stated on the entry form may be inspected and checked by a representative of the Association or its nominee.
24. All exhibits are the property of the Association.
25. Each exhibit must represent stock as set out on the entry form and be the bona fide property of that exhibitor.

26. All exhibits must be solely the produce of Australian grapes and not contravene an Act of the States and Commonwealth of Australia which governs the production of Australian Wine and Australian Brandy; these to include the Customs and Excise Act and Regulations, or any re-enactment of the above acts or any other act (i.e. Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code). The Association reserves the right to have any exhibit inspected and/or analysed by one or more persons appointed for that purpose.
27. No protests will be entertained unless made within seven days of the announcement of the awards.
28. CVWGA reserves the right to disqualify from the Clare Valley Wine Show any person or persons disqualified from any other Wine show during the period of such disqualification. Should any entry be accepted, it may, when discovered, be deemed void and the entry fee and exhibit shall be forfeited.
29. All exhibitors shall accept the decision of the judges as to the merits of the exhibits.
30. Judges shall not at any time prior to the announcement of awards have any access or knowledge as to the identity of the exhibits.
31. No exhibitors shall advertise or allow to be advertised by any means whatsoever whether by broadcasting pictorially or in writing, the fact that any exhibit has won any prize in the Clare Valley Wine Show unless such advertisement shows clearly:
- Award
 - Year of Award
 - Description of class with vintage year where applicable
 - Type of wine

Any competitor making improper use of awards won at the Clare Valley Wine show for advertising purposes may be disqualified from future Show or Shows.

32. Varietal wines must be constituted from not less than 85% from that specific variety.

33. Where appropriate, special prizes will be awarded to the exhibitor obtaining the highest number of points for a particular entry in any one class.
34. Gold medal wines only will be considered for trophies. If there are not any gold medals awarded in a particular trophy section, then that trophy will not be awarded in that particular year.
35. Wines can be entered under different company names providing they meet the show regulations. The wines must be entered and sold under the same company name as that stated on the label.
36. Any exhibitor breaking any regulations may be disqualified from any future Show or Shows.
37. The Association reserves the right to audit any Wine Show entry.
All exhibits become the property of the Association.
38. **Chair of Judges Award:** This may be a white, or red, or both. The wine or wines must have achieved high silver or gold status, but – most importantly – must be deemed by the chair of show and other selected judges, to be a wine (or wines) that will come into its own in good company and with a plate of delicious food at lunch or dinner.

SECTION A – CURRENT VINTAGE SECTION

For wines sourced in the Clare Valley, being **bottled wines only**, as at 14/09/2026.

Commercial name must be included on the entry form. **The wines must be bottled but need not be commercially available.** Exhibits may retain commercial labels where labelled.

Quantity specification:

100 dozen 750 ml or equivalent for large producers > 100t processed

50 dozen 750 ml or equivalent for small producers < 100t processed

Except for late harvest and sweet wine (classes 3 & 4), where 32 dozen applies.

Riesling 2026 vintage

Class 1 Dry White, Riesling (<7g/l R.S)

White Wine 2026 vintage

Class 2 Dry White, other than Riesling, oaked or non oaked (<7g/l R.S)

Sweet White Wine any vintage (Please indicate exact sugar level in g/L)

Class 3 Sweet White, (7g/l & - 60g/l R.S.)

Class 4 Sweet White, (> 60g/l R.S.)

Rose Wine (any vintage)

Class 5 Rose

Red Wine 2025 or younger

Class 6 Shiraz

Class 7 Cabernet Sauvignon

Class 8 Grenache

Class 9 Other single varietals; eg Merlot, Malbec, Tempranillo

Class 10 Blended red wine, other than eligible for classes 6, 7, 8, 9
(Please state varietal percentage)

Red Wine 2024 vintage only

Class 11 Shiraz

Class 12 Cabernet Sauvignon

Class 13 Grenache

Class 14 Other single varietals; e.g. Merlot, Malbec, Tempranillo

Class 15 Blended red wine, other than eligible for classes 11, 12, 13, 14
(Please state varietal percentage)

SECTION B – EXHIBITION SECTION

For wines sourced in the Clare Valley, being **bottled wines only**.

Commercial name must be included on the entry form. **The wines must be bottled but need not be commercially available.** Exhibits may retain commercial labels where labelled.

For an exhibition section wine to be eligible for other trophies apart from the best exhibition section trophies i.e. best wine of show, best single vineyards wine it must have stock quantities of:
50 dozen 750 ml or equivalent for large producers > 100t processed
25 dozen 750 ml or equivalent for small producers < 100t processed
And to win best wine of show must win best exhibition trophy in its class

Quantity specification:

5 dozen 750 ml or equivalent to be eligible for Best Exhibition Wine trophies

Riesling 2025 vintage

Class 16 Dry White, Riesling (<7g/l R.S)

Riesling 2024 vintage & older

Class 17 Dry White, Riesling (<7g/l R.S)

White Wine 2025 vintage & older

Class 18 Dry White, other than Riesling, oaked and non oaked (<7g/l R.S)

Red Wine 2023 vintage & older

Class 19 Shiraz

Class 20 Cabernet Sauvignon

Class 21 Other single varieties; e.g. Merlot, Malbec, Tempranillo, Grenache

Class 22 Blended red wine other than eligible for classes 19, 20, 21.
(Please state varietal percentage)

SECTION C – SPARKLING WINE

For wines sourced in the Clare Valley, being **bottled wine only**.

Commercial name must be included on the entry form. **The wines must be bottled but need not be commercially available.** Exhibits may retain commercial labels where labelled.

Quantity specification:

20 dozen 750 ml or equivalent.

Sparkling Wine any vintage

Class 23 Sparkling Wine (Crown seals permitted as the final closure)

SECTION D – FORTIFIED WINE

For wines sourced in the Clare Valley, being **bottled wine only**.

Commercial name must be included on the entry form. **The wines must be bottled but need not be commercially available.** Exhibits may retain commercial labels where labelled.

Quantity specification:

20 dozen 750 ml or equivalent.

Fortified Wine any vintage

Class 24 Fortified Wine – any style. **Style and age to be specified.**

SECTION E – WINE OF PROVENANCE

The 2026 Clare Valley Wine of Provenance is open to both Red and White wines.

All entries must be bottled stock all under the same label, the three wines will be judged for both quality and trueness to style.

Wine of Provenance scores will not be taken into account when determining **The Best Exhibitor of Show** and **Best Small Producer of Show** Trophies.

Wines are required to have a vintage spread of:

1. Current Vintage, e.g. 2026 wine
2. One of between 5 & 9 years older than the current vintage, e.g. a wine from 2021 – 2017
3. One of at least ten (10) years or older than the current vintage, e.g. a wine from 2016 or older

Only TWO bottles of each wine is required for judging

Current vintage means a wine that is, or will be, on commercial release in Australia at the time of entry.

Wines entered in section E are not eligible for any other trophies unless the wine is entered to be judged in another section.

Wine of Provenance

Class 25 Red or White Wine, current vintage.

Class 26 Red or White Wine, between 5 and 9 years older.

Class 27 Red or White Wine, 10 years or older

CLARE VALLEY REGIONAL WINE SHOW 2026

TROPHIES

1.	Best Sweet Wine	Classes 3, 4
2.	Best Rose of Show	Class 5
3.	Best Fortified Wine	Class 24
4.	Best Dry White other than Riesling – Classes 2,17	Classes 2,18
5.	Best Exhibition Section Dry Riesling, 2025 Vintage	Class 16
6.	Best Exhibition Section Dry Riesling, 2024 Vintage and older	Class 17
7.	Best Vintage Section Grenache	Class 8,13
8.	Best Vintage Section Shiraz	Class 6, 11
9.	Best Vintage Section Cabernet Sauvignon	Class 7, 12
10.	Best Vintage Section Dry Red	Classes 9, 10, 14,15
11.	Best Dry Red from Exhibition Sections	Classes 19,20,21,22
12.	Chair of Judges Award	All Classes
13.	Best Current Vintage Riesling Mick Knappstein Trophy	Class 1
14.	Best Vintage Section Dry Red Carl Sobels Trophy	From Trophy awards 7,8,9,10
15.	Best Riesling of Show	From Trophy awards 5,6,13
16.	Best Small Producer	See note 8 in Wine Show Regulations
17.	Best Single Vineyard Wine	See Note 9 in Wine Show Regulations
18.	Viticulturist Trophy	See note 10 in Wine Show Regulations
19.	Best Exhibitor of Show	See note 7 in Wine Show Regulations
20.	Wine of Provenance Br John May Trophy	Class 25,26,27
21.	Best Wine of Show Jim Barry Trophy	All Classes
Note: Additional trophies may be awarded at the Chairman's discretion.		
I.	Best Sparkling – Class 23	

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