

2026 Western Victorian Wine Challenge



01A

Sparkling Wine - White or Rose

Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Elizabeth Ladhams, Jessica Thomson

Comments: smart sparkling class, direction and concentration of top wines was excellent

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Taltarni Vineyards	Taltarni Vineyards NV Brut	87	Bronze
2	Mount Langi Ghiran	Mount Langi Ghiran 2023 Blanc des Blancs	96	Top Gold
3	Vinesmith - VIC	Blue Pyrenees Estate 2022 Vintage Brut	95	Gold
4	Taltarni Vineyards	Taltarni Vineyards NV Blanc de Blancs	88	Bronze
5	Taltarni Vineyards	Taltarni Vineyards NV Luna Belle		

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01B

Sparkling Wine - Red



Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Elizabeth Ladhams, Jessica Thomson

Comments: top wines displayed brightness and freshness
Top gold, lovely delicate style, delicious

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate Limited Edition Rutherford Reserve Sparkling 2015 Shiraz	95	Gold
2	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate 2022 Rutherford Sparkling Shiraz	96	Top Gold
3	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2021 Back Block Sparkling Shiraz	85	Bronze
4	Dogrock Wines	Dogrock 2021 Pedros Sparkling Red		



Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Jessica Thomson

Comments:

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Clarnette & Ludvigsen Wines	Clarnette 2024 Grampians Riesling		
2	Black & Ginger	Black & Ginger 2025 Rapunzel Riesling		
3	Meredith Wines	Meredith Wines 2026 "Big Fundamental" Riesling	90	Silver
4	Best's Wines	Best's Great Western 2026 Riesling	96	Top Gold
5	Mount Langi Ghiran	Mount Langi Ghiran Cliff Edge 2026 Riesling	95	Gold
6	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate St Ethels 1890 Vines 2026 Riesling	85	Bronze
7	Treasury Wine Estates Vintners Limited	B Seppelt & Sons 2026 Drumborg Riesling	95	Gold
8	Pomonal Estate	Pomonal Estate Late Harvest 2023 Riesling	86	Bronze
9	Black & Ginger	Black & Ginger 2025 The Hunter Riesling	90	Silver

03

Dry White Wine - Chardonnay

Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Olivia Day, Jessica Thomson

Comments:

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Vinesmith - VIC	Blue Pyrenees Estate 2025 Chardonnay	95	Gold
2	Circle of Hills	Circle of Hills 2025 Chardonnay	86	Bronze
3	Treasury Wine Estates Vintners Limited	B Seppelt & Sons 2025 Drumborg Chardonnay	96	Top Gold
4	Best's Wines	Best's Great Western 2025 Chardonnay	88	Bronze
5	Provenance Wines	Provenance Ballarat 2024 Chardonnay	88	Bronze
6	Vinesmith - VIC	Glenlofty Estate 2025 Lookout Chardonnay	86	Bronze
7	Mount Avoca Vineyards - VIC	Mount Avoca Estate Organic 2025 Chardonnay		

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04A

Other White - Sauvignon Blanc

Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Lucy Austen-Paine, Jessica Thomson

Comments:

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Vinesmith - VIC	Blue Pyrenees Estate 2026 Sauvignon Blanc	88	Bronze
2	Mount Avoca Vineyards - VIC	Mount Avoca Estate Organic 2026 Sauvignon Blanc	90	Silver
3	Circle of Hills	Circle of Hills 2025 Sauvignon Blanc		

04B

Other whites and white blends

Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Lucy Austen-Paine, Jessica Thomson

Comments: well done on garganega

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Circle of Hills	Circle of Hills 2025 Mediterranean Field Blend		
2	Best's Wines	Best's Great Western 2026 Pinot Grigio	88	Bronze
3	Mount Avoca Vineyards - VIC	Mount Avoca Estate Organic 2026 Viognier		
4	Circle of Hills	Circle of Hills 2025 Garganega	91	Silver



05

Rose

Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Jessica Thomson

Comments: best wines show lift and balance
other wines lacking fruit.

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Clarnette & Ludvigsen Wines	Clarnette 2025 Grampians Rosé		
2	Quartz Hill Wines	Quartz Hill 2025 Mencia Rosé	87	Bronze
3	Black & Ginger	Black & Ginger 2025 Lucys Rosé		
4	Best's Wines	Best's Great Western 2026 Rosé	86	Bronze
5	Mount Avoca Vineyards - VIC	Mount Avoca Moates Lane Organic 2026 Rosé	88	Bronze
6	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate Drovers 2026 Rosé	85	Bronze
7	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2025 Rosé		
8	SubRosa Wine	SubRosa 2024 Rosé		

06

Dry Red Wine - Pinot Noir & Pinot Munier

Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Jessica Thomson

Comments:

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Provenance Wines	Provenance Ballarat 2024 Pinot Noir	89	Bronze
2	Treasury Wine Estates Vintners Limited	B Seppelt & Sons 2025 Drumborg Pinot Noir	90	Silver
3	Best's Wines	Best's Great Western Young Vine 2025 Pinot Meunier	88	Bronze
4	Provenance Wines	Provenance Henty 2024 Pinot Noir	86	Bronze
5	Treasury Wine Estates Vintners Limited	B Seppelt & Sons 2025 Drumborg Pinot Meunier	90	Silver
6	Best's Wines	Best's Great Western 2025 Pinot Noir		

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07A

Dry Red Wine - Shiraz 2024, 2025

Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Jessica Thomson

Comments: Excellent bracket, diversity is key, lovely differing of styles
Bright cool climate styles lovely, well placed reduction. refined wines were delicious

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2024 Reserve Shiraz		
2	Taltarni Vineyards	Taltarni Vineyards 2024 Estate Shiraz	89	Bronze
3	Taltarni Vineyards	Taltarni Vineyards 2025 Victorian Shiraz	88	Bronze
4	Circle of Hills	Circle of Hills 2025 Syrah	95	Gold
5	Vinesmith - VIC	Blue Pyrenees 2024 Section One Shiraz	95	Gold
6	Clarnette & Ludvigsen Wines	Clarnette 2024 Grampians Shiraz		
7	Meredith Wines	Meredith Wines 2025 "Original Recipe" Shiraz	89	Bronze
8	Mount Stapylton P/L	Mount Stapylton 2024 Reserve Shiraz	85	Bronze
9	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2024 Sahsah Shiraz	91	Silver
10	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2024 Shiraz	92	Silver
11	SubRosa Wine	SubRosa 2024 Shiraz	90	Silver
12	Vinesmith - VIC	Glenlofty Estate 2024 Ridge Block Shiraz	96	Top Gold
13	Mount Langi Ghiran	Mount Langi Ghiran Talus 2024 Shiraz		
14	Miners Ridge Wines - VIC	Miners Ridge Wines 2024 AT Shiraz	89	Bronze
15	Mount Avoca Vineyards - VIC	Mount Avoca Moates Lane Organic 2024 Shiraz		
16	Taltarni Vineyards	Taltarni Vineyards 2024 Old Vine Shiraz		
17	Mount Langi Ghiran	Mount Langi Ghiran Cliff Edge 2024 Shiraz	92	Silver



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07B

Dry Red Wine - Shiraz 2023, 2022, 2021

Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Jessica Thomson

Comments: Unfortunately wines are drying, esp tannins.

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Clayfield Wines	Clayfield Thomas Wills 2022 Grampians Shiraz		
2	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate Streeton Reserve 2021 Shiraz		
3	Quartz Hill Wines	Quartz Hill 2021 Syrah	85	Bronze
4	Clayfield Wines	Clayfield 2022 Grampians Shiraz		
5	Vinesmith - VIC	Blue Pyrenees Estate 2022 Richardson Reserve Shiraz	85	Bronze
6	Clayfield Wines	Clayfield 2023 Grampians Shiraz		
7	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate St Ethels Great Western 2022 Shiraz	89	Bronze
8	Treasury Wine Estates Vintners Limited	B Seppelt & Sons 2023 St Peters Shiraz		
9	Vinesmith - VIC	Glenlofty Estate 2023 Decameron Station Shiraz		
10	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate St Ethels 1878 Vines 2022 Shiraz		
11	Sally's Paddock Pty Ltd	Sally's Hill 2022 Shiraz		



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08

Dry Red Wine - Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Sauvignon dominant blends



Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Jessica Thomson, Quintin Murphy

Comments:

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Vinesmith - VIC	Blue Pyrenees Estate 2024 Estate Red		
2	Miners Ridge Wines - VIC	Miners Ridge Wines 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon		
3	Taltarni Vineyards	Taltarni Vineyards 2023 Old Vine Cabernet Sauvignon		
4	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2024 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon	96	Top Gold
5	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2024 Cabernet Sauvignon	89	Bronze
6	Vinesmith - VIC	Blue Pyrenees Estate 2022 Richardson Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon	85	Bronze
7	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate Corriedale 2024 Cabernet Sauvignon	90	Silver
8	Mount Langi Ghiran	Mount Langi Ghiran 2024 Talus Cabernet Sauvignon	95	Gold
9	Mount Avoca Vineyards - VIC	Mount Avoca Moates Lane Organic 2024 Cabernet Sauvignon		
10	Taltarni Vineyards	Taltarni Vineyards 2024 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon	90	Silver



Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Jessica Thomson

Comments:

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate Fields Crossing 2024 Grenache	88	Bronze
2	Black & Ginger	Black & Ginger 2025 Nouveau Grenache		
3	Mount Langi Ghiran	Mount Langi Ghiran Cliff Edge 2025 Grenache	92	Silver
4	Meredith Wines	Meredith Wines 2026 "New Tricks" Grenache	90	Silver
5	Taltarni Vineyards	Taltarni Vineyards 2024 Discovery Grenache	85	Bronze
6	Dogrock Wines	Dogrock 2022 Grenache		
7	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate The Longest Drive 2025 Tempranillo		
8	Mount Avoca Vineyards - VIC	Mount Avoca Estate Organic 2025 Tempranillo		
9	Dogrock Wine	Dogrock 2023 Tempranillo		

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10A

Dry Red Wine - Other Reds Single Varietal

Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Jessica Thomson

Comments: layered and variable

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Sally's Paddock Pty Ltd	Sally's Hill 2024 Malbec		
2	Clarnette & Ludvigsen Wines	Clarnette 2023 Grampians Durif	85	Bronze
3	Mount Langi Ghiran	Mount Langi Ghiran Cliff Edge 2025 Barbera	95	Top Gold
4	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2024 Merlot		
5	Mount Avoca Vineyards - VIC	Mount Avoca Estate Organic 2025 Lagrein	90	Silver

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10B

Dry Red Wines - Other Red Blends in any percentage

Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Jessica Thomson

Comments:

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Black & Ginger	Black & Ginger 2023 Cinco Rojas Grenache, Graciano, Touriga, Tinta Cao, Tinta Roriz		
2	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate Woolclassers 2024 Grenache, Shiraz, Tempranillo	85	Bronze
3	Taltarni Vineyards	Taltarni Vineyards 2024 Reserve Shiraz Cabernet Sauvignon	85	Bronze
4	Taltarni Vineyards	Taltarni Vineyards 2024 Discovery Reserve des Pyrenees	88	Bronze
5	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2024 Tradition Shiraz, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon	90	Silver



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11A

Museum Class White (2021 and older)

Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Jessica Thomson

Comments:

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Quartz Hill Wines	Quartz Hill 2021 Viognier	89	Bronze
2	Mount Langi Ghiran	Mount Langi Ghiran 2013 Cliff Edge Riesling	95	Gold

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11B

Museum Class Red Wine (2020 and older)



Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Jessica Thomson

Comments: Fantastic class of museum reds
Exciting to see how they beautifully they age

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate 2016 GST	88	Bronze
2	Mount Langi Ghiran	Mount Langi Ghiran Talus 2017 Shiraz	96	Top Gold
3	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate Streeton Reserve 2018 Shiraz	95	Gold
4	Mount Stapylton P/L	Mount Stapylton 2019 Reserve Shiraz		
5	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate St Ethels Great Western 2017 Shiraz	93	Silver
6	Clarnette & Ludvigsen Wines	Clarnette & Ludvigsen 2017 Grampians Shiraz	90	Silver
7	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2015 'Reserve' Shiraz	85	Bronze
8	Clarnette & Ludvigsen	Clarnette & Ludvigsen 2017 Reserve Grampians Shiraz	93	Silver



Judges: Ben Ranken, Amanda Flynn, Adrian Marchioro, Jessica Thomson

Comments:

Entry	Exhibiting Company	Exhibit	Score	Award
1	Best's Wines	Best's Great Western 2011 Riesling		
2	Best's Wines	Best's Great Western 2021 Riesling		
3	Best's Wines	Best's Great Western 2025 Riesling		
4	Vinesmith - VIC	Glenlofty Estate 2014 Estate Marsanne Roussanne		
5	Vinesmith - VIC	Glenlofty Estate 2021 Estate Roussanne Marsanne		
6	Vinesmith - VIC	Glenlofty Estate 2023 Estate Marsanne Roussanne		
7	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate Fields Crossing 2015 Grenache		
8	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate Fields Crossing 2019 Grenache		
9	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate Fields Crossing 2024 Grenache		
10	Vinesmith - VIC	Blue Pyrenees Estate 2013 Richardson Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon		
11	Vinesmith - VIC	Blue Pyrenees Estate 2018 Richardson Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon		
12	Vinesmith - VIC	Blue Pyrenees Estate 2022 Richardson Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon		
13	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2015 'Reserve' Cabernet Sauvignon		
14	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2018 'Reserve' Cabernet Sauvignon		
15	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2024 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon		
16	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2015 'Reserve' Shiraz		Top Gold
17	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2018 'Reserve' Shiraz		Top Gold
18	Summerfield Wines	Summerfield Wines 2024 'Reserve' Shiraz		Top Gold
19	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate Streeton Reserve 2015 Shiraz		
20	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate Streeton Reserve 2017 Shiraz		
21	Grampians Estate - VIC	Grampians Estate Streeton Reserve 2021 Shiraz		