

ARINTO

Origin and Distribution

This is a Portuguese white wine variety from the region of Bucelas just north of Lisbon. In fact the variety is also known as Arinto de Bucelas. There are several other unrelated varieties with the name of Arinto but Arinto de Bucelas is the real deal. It is grown in several regions of Portugal but until recently nowhere else to any extent. In the last few years it has attracted attention of Australian grape growers and winemakers.

Description

Arinto makes dry white wines in its native Portugal. It is commonly used in blends - Portuguese winemakers have traditionally favoured blends over straight varietal wines. Varietal Arinto wines are becoming more popular and it is also used for sparkling wines.

Australian winemakers are attracted to Arinto because of its ability to retain acidity in hot conditions and to produce refreshing, crisp dry white wines. Lemons, lime, green apples melons are some of the descriptors used for these wines.

Australian Producers

- Alejandro, Riverland
- Amato Vino, Margaret River
- Bassham, Riverland
- Dell'uva Wines, Barossa Valley
- Ricca Terra, Riverland
- Stanton and Killeen Wines, Rutherglen
- Whistling Eagle Wines, Heathcote

Comments By Australian Winemakers

Arinto is in a group of varieties which are well adapted to the changing climate. They are able to survive and thrive with low irrigation such as those experienced during the fierce heatwaves prior to the 2019 vintage. - Ashleigh Radcliff of Ricca Terra Wines

