

TASTE AND TALK – 5

Most Diverse Regions

A question from a participant in T&T 4 prompted this topic

How do we define diverse?

How many alternative varieties?

What percentage of wineries using those varieties?

For this presentation I've just chosen one region from each mainland state that I think is interesting

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The regions

Geographe WA (22 wineries in Vindata)

Riverland SA (24)

King Valley Vic (26)

Mudgee NSW (33)

Granite Belt QLD (28)

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Riverland

24 Producers

Formerly best known for “The Big Cask”

Now a proving ground for alternative varieties

Riverland Vine Improvement Committee

Drought/heat tolerant varieties

Prominent producers

- *919 Wines*
- *Bassham Wines*
- *Ricca Terra (Ashleigh Ratcliff)*
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Riverland



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Geographe

Named after Geographe Bay

Abuts northern end of Margaret River

From the coast to foothills of Darling Range

Bunbury and Busselton Main Towns

Holds annual WA Alternative Varieties Wine Show

Producers include

➤ *Barrecas*

➤ *Mazza*

➤ *Vineyard 28*

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Geographie

Nero d'Avola
Fiano
Sangiovese
Nebbiolo
Chenin Blanc
Touriga
Graciano
Pinotage
Brachetto
Mondeuse
Souzao
Dolcetto
Bastardo
Malbec
Durif
Gamay
Savagnin
Arneis
Moscato
Vermentino
Petit Verdot
Pignoletto
Tinto Cao
Zinfandel
Barbera

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Granite Belt

*South Eastern Qld, elevation ~1000m “Brass Monkeys Festival
Stanthorpe main town, also horticultural area*

Producers include

- *Ballandean Estate*
- *Golden Grove*
- *Ridgemill*
- *Symphony Hills*
- *Mike Hayes (consultant winemaker)*

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Granite Belt

Sagrantino
Nebbiolo
Malbec
Marsanne
Prieto Picudo
Petit Manseng
Moscato Giallo
Barbera
Durif
Graciano
Lagrein
Malvasia
Mencia
Mondeuse
Piquepoul
Fiano
Zinfandel
Colombard
Chanel
Paradisa
Aglianico
Albarino
Carmenere
Tannat
Chenin Blanc
Saperavi
Tannat
Roussanne
Nero d'Avola
Ruby
Cabernet
Inzolia
Pinotage
Jacquez
Tinta
Barocca
Sylvaner
Vermentino
Montepulciano

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Mudgee

Long but punctuated history Gold Era to 1960s revival
Robert Oatley largest producer
Di Lusso Estate Italian Varietal specialists
Mansfield wines - Portuguese

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Mudgee

Moscato
Vermentino
Parellada Montepulciano
Savagnin Malbec Greco
Chambourcin Gamay Muscadelle
Tinta Cao Negroamaro
Souzao Aleatico
Nebbiolo Carignan Cabernet Franc
Fiano Barbera Picolit
Marsanne Roussanne Graciano
Touriga Tinto Cao Aglianico
Prosecco Pinot Blanc Lagrein
Arneis Muller Thurgau Durif
Petit Manseng
Petit Verdot
Pedro Ximenez

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King Valley

- *Brown Brothers est 1885*
- *Formerly Tobacco area around Myrtleford - Italian heritage*
- *Elevation varies from 200-800m*
- *Phylloxera means grapes cannot leave the region*
- *Prosecco and many other Italians*
- *Saperavi and Petit Manseng pioneered here*
- *Pizzini Family and many others*

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King Valley

Verduzzo
Montepulciano Zinfandel Nebbiolo
Barbera Tarrango
Sagrantino Nero d'Avola Saperavi Moscato
Graciano Canaiolo Cienna Lagrein Roussanne
Cabernet Franc Zibibbo Aligote Friulano Grecanico
Aglianico Crouchen Verdicchio Mondeuse Savagnin
Garganega Chenin Blanc
Meunier Lexia Tannat Fragola Flora Teroldego
Durif Dolcetto Pinot Blanc Aucerot Sylvaner
Fiano Gamay Muscadelle
Picolit Colorino Marzemino
Sagrantino Vermentino
Petit Manseng Orange Muscat
Petit Verdot Brachetto Albarino
Arneis