



Media Release

1 November 2025

Evans & Tate Redbrook Reserve Chardonnay 2023 named Wine of Show

The **2025 Endeavour Group Margaret River Wine Show**, held on Wadandi Boodja, culminated yesterday in a Gala Awards Lunch at The Tiller Farm in Yallingup Siding, celebrating the region's finest wines and producers.

The Evans & Tate Redbrook Reserve Chardonnay 2023 was awarded Wine of Show, Best White Wine, and Best Chardonnay, cementing Evans & Tate's reputation as one of the region's most consistent performers. This marks the winery's third Wine of Show, following previous wins for the 2012 Cabernet (2015) and 2004 Chardonnay (2005).

Evans & Tate also received the Best Shiraz Trophy and Most Successful Exhibitor, taking home a total of five trophies.

Accepting the trophy Best Chardonnay, Evans & Tate Senior Winemaker Matt Byrne said:

"I cherish these moments to celebrate the region and come together as an industry. The 2023 has been the best vintage of my 25 years as winemaker at Evans & Tate."

David Bicknell, Chief Winemaker at Oakridge Wines in the Yarra Valley, chaired the judging panel for the second consecutive year, alongside nine national and local judges and six associates.

Margaret River Wine Association (MRWA) CEO Amanda Whiteland said the committee had assembled an exceptional group of judges, noting five of the ten judges are Dux recipients of the prestigious Len Evans Tutorial (LET).

"With two local winemakers – Andrew Bretherton (Juniper Estate) and Matt Buchan (Deep Woods Estate) – heading off to this year's Len Evans Tutorial today, it was wonderful to have such depth and experience in our judging panels, including David Bicknell (2005 Dux), Tim Dolan (2018 Dux), Adam Walls (2019 Dux), Andrea Pritzker MW (2022 Dux) and Lauren Hutton (2024 Dux)."

The panel assessed **630 entries from 96 exhibitors** at the Margaret River HEART, awarding **62 gold, 91 silver, and 220 bronze medals** — a medal strike rate of nearly **60%**.

Reflecting on the judging and the results, Chair of Judges, David Bicknell, said:

"This is a great show to judge because of the consistently high quality of wines across all categories."

Chardonnay was, as always, a real highlight — large classes of very strong wines from a wide range of producers. The same can be said for Cabernet, the region's benchmark red variety, with excellent examples across multiple vintages and both varietal Cabernet and Cabernet blends."

It was also good to see Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon–Sauvignon Blanc blends performing particularly well this year, with more gold medals than in recent years.

Among the Other White varieties, a whole group of other varieties are doing quite well here. Chenin Blanc has been strong for some time, and it was great to see Fiano, Vermentino, Pinot Blanc and Albariño all doing well.

With the Other Red varieties, Malbec is the dominator, although there were also some excellent Cabernet Francs that we saw.

Overall, it was a very good show with a pretty high strike-rate of gold medals awarded, just over 10% of entries — which is above the national average, but in a region that continues to punch well above its weight, no real surprise.”

Trophy Prizes

The **Novonesis ‘Pink Jacket’ Trophy** for Rosé went to Deep Woods Estate Harmony Rosé 2025, with Senior Winemaker, Emma Gillespie receiving the event’s signature custom-tailored pink jacket.

The Mercurey Trophy for Best Single Vineyard Red went to McHenry Hohnen for the Hazel’s Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon 2023, marking the third time the winery has claimed the case of **wines from Tonnellerie de Mercurey** barrels, valued at over \$3,500.

Voyager Estate introduced a new prize for the Best Sustainable Wine Trophy, including a \$3,000 **travel bursary to attend the 2027 Organic & Biodynamic Winegrowing Conference in New Zealand**. The prize was awarded to Juniper’s Canvas Malbec 2025 in lightweight glass under 420 grams and Sustainable Winegrowing Australia certified.

Celebrating Excellence Across the Industry

A Lifetime Achievement Award and two major Excellence Awards were also presented at the Gala Lunch.

The Margaret River Wine Association **Lifetime Achievement Award** was presented to **Vanya Cullen**, recognising her extraordinary contribution to the Margaret River wine industry and her leadership in sustainability, innovation, and excellence. The award celebrates Vanya’s lifelong dedication to both her family’s legacy and the advancement of Australian wine on the global stage.

MRWA Chair Peter Campbell said:

“Vanya’s contribution to the Margaret River wine community has been profound. Her vision and unwavering commitment to sustainability have not only shaped Cullen Wines but elevated the reputation of the entire Margaret River region on the world stage.”

The **Viticultural and Sustainability Excellence Award** presented by **Fogarty Wine Group** was awarded to **Tyke Wheatley** of family owned and biodynamic vineyard, Windance Estate in Yallingup.

Fogarty Wine Group Chief Viticulturalist John Fogarty said:

“Tyke is a standout contributor to the region’s viticulture—recognised for leadership in biodynamic farming, ecological balance, and collaborative innovation across the industry. He has built a network of

industry peers to share ideas, test solutions, and strengthen the broader community. It's a quiet kind of leadership—collaborative, generous, and deeply effective.”

The **Cellar Door Excellence Award** presented by **Margaret River Busselton Tourism Association** (MRBTA) was awarded to **Larissa Dalli Cani** at Howard Park Wines.

MRBTA CEO Sharna Kearny said:

“We’re delighted to have sponsored the Cellar Door Excellence Award since its inception, recognising the intrinsic link between wine and tourism, and the professionals that connect visitors to the unique Margaret River wine story.

Larissa’s passionate support of both the wine and tourism sectors makes her a deserving recipient of this year’s award. Her professional volunteer engagements have demonstrated a strong commitment to enhancing the quality and authenticity of the cellar door experience, making her an asset to the future of wine tourism in our region.”

Each Excellent Award recipient receives a \$3,000 bursary to support ongoing education and development.

2025 Margaret River Wine Lifetime Achievement & Excellence Awards:

- **Margaret River Wine Association Lifetime Achievement Award:** Vanya Cullen, Cullen Wines
- **Viticulture & Sustainability Excellence Award presented by Fogarty Wine Group:** Tyke Wheatley, Windance Estate
- **Cellar Door Excellence Award presented by Margaret River Busselton Tourism Association:** Larissa Dalli Cani, Howard Park

2025 Endeavour Group Margaret River Wine Show Trophies:

- Endeavour Group Trophy for Wine of Show: **Evans & Tate Redbrook Reserve Chardonnay 2023**
- Pellenc Trophy for Red Wine of Show: **Stella Bella Cabernet Sauvignon 2023**
- Labelmakers Trophy for White Wine of Show: **Evans & Tate Redbrook Reserve Chardonnay 2023**
- Vinline Mobile Bottling Trophy for Most Successful Exhibitor: **Evans & Tate**
- Langton’s Trophy for Wine of Provenance: **Stella Bella Luminosa Cabernet Sauvignon 2023, 2018, 2014**
- City of Busselton Trophy for Best Cabernet Sauvignon: **Stella Bella Cabernet Sauvignon 2023**
- MCC Trophy for Best Chardonnay: **Evans & Tate Redbrook Reserve Chardonnay 2023**
- Voyager Estate Trophy for Best Sustainable Wine: **Juniper Canvas Malbec 2025**
- Mercurey Trophy for Best Single Vineyard Red: **McHenry Hohnen Hazel's Vineyard Cabernet 2023**
- Sanector Trophy for Best Single Vineyard White: **Mandoon Estate Chardonnay 2023**
- Cospak Trophy for Best Cabernet Sauvignon Blend: **Vintners Edge of Desire Cabernet Merlot 2023**
- My Vintner Trophy for Best Sauvignon Blanc: **Xanadu Vinework Sauvignon Blanc 2025**
- Vasse Steel Trophy for Best Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon: **Howard Park Sauvignon Blanc Semillon 2025**
- Margaret River Wine Storage Trophy for Best Alternate White: **Howard Park Arboe Novae Fiano 2025**
- Fusion Electrical Trophy for Best Shiraz/Syrah: **Evans & Tate Redbrook Estate Shiraz 2023**
- Novonesis Trophy for Best Rosé: **Deep Woods Estate Harmony Rosé 2025**
- Hahn Trophy for Best Alternate Red: **Peacetree Estate Malbec 2023**

Full results are available at margaretriver.wine/show-results/

2025 Judging Panel

Chair of Judges:

David Bicknell – Chief Winemaker, Oakridge Wines

Judges:

Adam Walls – Wine Selectors | Andrea Pritzker MW – Wine inTuition | Feleasha Prendergast – Evans & Tate | Jacopo Dalli Cani – McHenry Hohnen | Larissa Dalli Cani – Howard Park | Lauren Hansen – Penley Estate | Ryan Aggiss – Aravina Estate | Steven Paul – Oakdene Wines | Tim Dolan – Kaesler Wines

Associate Judges:

Blake Rax – Voyager Estate | Mick Stanton – Dan Murphy's | Richard Bateman – Fabel Vineyards | Rory Parks – Byron & Harold | Tarun Victor-Gordon – Lentedal | Ulrika Larsson – Clairault Streicker

Link to Images

Available upon request.

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