

## Portfolio Overview

### AusVetia

#### South Australia

From winemaker Kym Tolley, AusVetia is his vision of a “house style” that is not restricted to a particular region but is instead an amalgam of the ripest, richest fruit possible in a given year. This wine has no pretence to demonstrate a sense of terroir and is certainly not a Coonawarra or Penley Estate wine. In fact most of the fruit for this wine comes from McLaren Vale, although its ripe, massively concentrated style is more a reflection of winemaking than region. It’s a style that illustrates the ‘larger than life’ characteristics of Australian wine - bold, vigorous and bursting with warm, ripe flavors.



[www.oldbridgecellars.com](http://www.oldbridgecellars.com)

### Balgownie Estate

#### Bendigo, Victoria

Balgownie Estate is one of Australia's greatest small vineyards. Located near the historic gold mining town of Bendigo in central Victoria, the Estate was established in 1969 on a superb site of alluvial soil at Maiden Gully, 112 miles northwest of Victoria’s capital, Melbourne. From the first vintage in 1972, the wines drew critical acclaim, setting the pace for the many who followed by planting vines in the area. Today, Balgownie Estate is the most respected name in the region, standing as the benchmark of a central Victorian style reliant on well-ripened fruit, distinctive local terroir and sympathetic use of oak.



[www.balgownieestate.com.au](http://www.balgownieestate.com.au)

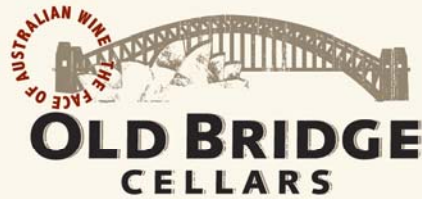
### Brokenwood

#### Hunter Valley, New South Wales

A benchmark Australian winery founded in 1970 by Sydney trio Tony Albert, John Beeston and Australia’s leading wine critic, James Halliday, Brokenwood evolved from a weekend venture for these self-professed hobby winemakers into one of Australia’s most reputable wine labels. With the appointment of winemaker, Iain Riggs, in 1982, the company extended its range to include the jewel of the Hunter Valley, Semillon. 35 years later, Brokenwood is known for producing some of Australia’s most long-lived Semillons, and one of the nation’s most iconic single vineyard wines, the Graveyard Shiraz, which Australia’s leading auction house, Langton’s, lists among the top 25 in the country. While the size of the company has grown, the operation remains deliberately labor intensive with the intent of retaining individuality and quality.



[www.brokenwood.com.au](http://www.brokenwood.com.au)



## Chambers Rosewood

Rutherglen, Victoria



Since establishment in 1858 in Victoria's famed Rutherglen region, winemaking duties at Chambers Rosewood have been handed down through five generations. Recently relinquished by Bill Chambers, one of Australia's most respected wine personalities, the aging and blending practices that shape these inimitable fortified wines are now entrusted with son Stephen. Recognized the world over for their complexity, intensity and balance, Chambers' Rare Muscats and Muscadelles are a national treasure; wines expertly blended from unctuous material that has matured quietly in the family cellars for more than a century.

[www.oldbridgecellars.com](http://www.oldbridgecellars.com)

## Chapoutier and Laughton

Latour de France, France/ Heathcote, Victoria

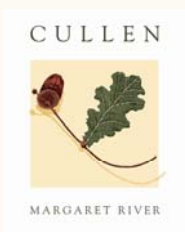


A chance meeting in the mid-nineties sealed a certain fate for two great winemaking families of modern times – the Laughtons of Heathcote, Victoria, and the Chapoutiers of the Rhone Valley, France. Ron Laughton and Michel Chapoutier, both passionate winemakers with a belief in biodynamic farming and its potential to express pure terroir, found they shared a common vision: to create a pair of wines from far-reaching corners of the globe that would each express their distinct origins, yet remain allied through the philosophy of their creation. The Agly Brothers Côtes du Roussillon (Carignan blend from 100 year old vines) and Cambrien Shiraz represent the labors of the Laughton and Chapoutier families in this endeavor.

[www.oldbridgecellars.com](http://www.oldbridgecellars.com)

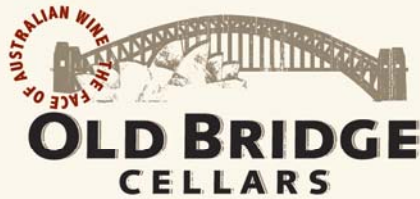
## Cullen

Margaret River, Western Australia



A founding winery of Margaret River, Cullen was established in 1971 by pioneering winemakers Kevin and Diana Cullen. In redefining the style of Australian Cabernet Sauvignon produced in the 1970s, the fledgling estate caught the attention of the nation. Since then, an unrelenting commitment to quality, integrity and sustainability has positioned Cullen as one of Australia's greatest estates - and Margaret River as one of the nation's premier wine-producing regions. The mature, biodynamically farmed vineyard produces elegant, age-worthy wines that draw world-wide critical acclaim, including what is regarded by many as the country's definitive Bordeaux blend.

[www.cullenwines.com.au](http://www.cullenwines.com.au)



## d'Arenberg

McLaren Vale, South Australia

One of the undisputed kings of Australian Shiraz and Rhone varietals, d'Arenberg has managed to turn individuality into an art form by doing a whole lot of little things differently. The original vineyards were established by Joseph Osborn in 1912 in the McLaren Vale region of South Australia. A century on, the estate has grown to 345 acres, and the mantle now rests with fourth-generation winemaker Chester Osborn. By maintaining a focus on traditional winemaking and nurturing their old-vine material, the Osborn clan has successfully established themselves as one of the country's leading producers of concentrated, characterful wines. Ranked among Australia's Top 10 Shiraz producers by Wine & Spirits Magazine in July 2007, this reputation is clearly recognized worldwide.



[www.darenberg.com.au](http://www.darenberg.com.au)

## Frisk Prickly

Alpine Valleys, Victoria

A team of young gun Australian winemakers and growers couldn't help but ponder the 'Riesling Revolution' as they worked their magic with some of the finest fruit in the downright cold-climate of Victoria's Alpine Valleys. Seeing friends slurp down their juice almost any time of the day (brunch-time drinkers were indebted to its low 8% alcohol), alone or with one of their damn hot Thai curries, piqued the thought that a few outside their little hamlet might be equally enamored by it. So, after labeling up a few cases, they threw on their best duds, loaded the car and set forth for lands unknown - lucky for us here in the US, one of their first ports of call was San Francisco. So that's how it comes to pass that you now see Frisk popping up all over the US.



[www.friskwines.com](http://www.friskwines.com)

## Giant Steps

Yarra Valley, Victoria

Giant Steps, established in 1998 in the cool climate region of the Yarra Valley, was born of a vision to create specialized, single vineyard wines reflecting a unique sense of place. A veteran of the Australian wine industry, Phil Sexton had long admired the wines of benchmark, cool climate producers from this area, and was thus inspired to explore clonal and site variations between Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Merlot. Phil and wife Allison began their journey by hand-planting a 75 acre vineyard on the gravelly, north facing slopes of the Warramate Ranges, and have since developed relationships with neighboring vignerons in the Valley. Securing premium fruit from these diverse vineyards enables the Sextons to release a range of wines that highlight the distinct personalities and moods of each site.



[www.giantsteps.com.au](http://www.giantsteps.com.au)

## Innocent Bystander

Yarra Valley, Victoria



An experienced vigneron counting over 20 years in the Australian wine industry, Phil Sexton relocated from the warm, coastal region of Margaret River to the gravelly slopes of Victoria's Yarra Valley in the late 1990s to pursue cool climate viticulture. Beyond the pristine Chardonnay and Pinot Noir he was able to produce in the Valley, Phil discovered a number of vineyards in far flung corners of Victoria that inspired him to explore regional diversity in this small state. Thus the Innocent Bystander label was created, and his talented winemaking team tasked with delivering a range of wines with a personality all their own: distinctly regional, varietally expressive and definitely not your run of the mill blends.

[www.innocentbystander.com.au](http://www.innocentbystander.com.au)

## Jasper Hill

Heathcote, Victoria



Established in 1975 by Ron and Elva Laughton, Jasper Hill produces some of Australia's most individual and compelling Shirazes. Situated in the Heathcote region of Central Victoria, the estate has been largely responsible for establishing this area as one of Australia's greatest red wine regions. The 60 acre property comprises three vineyards, two of which are named after Ron and Elva's daughters, Emily and Georgia; all are positioned on ancient Cambrian soils unique to this area. Beyond these exceptional sites, it is the Laughtons' commitment to low yields, dry farming and non-interventionist, biodynamic viticultural practices that place Jasper Hill among Australia's premier producers.

[www.jasperhill.com](http://www.jasperhill.com)

## John Duval Wines

Barossa Valley, South Australia



John Duval is one of Australia's most highly regarded winemakers. Raised on a South Australian farm with three generations of grape growers before him, his vinous path was fated. However, it was during his 28-year tenure with Penfolds that his passion for the famed Barossa Valley flourished. As Chief Winemaker and custodian of Australia's most famous wine, Grange, he was instrumental in establishing Penfolds as one of the world's great wineries. His accolades include being named UK Wine and Spirit Competition's International Winemaker of the Year, Red Winemaker of the Year (twice) and receiving Wine Spectator's Wine of the Year award. In 2002, John embarked on his own label, John Duval Wines, inspired by the best of the Barossa Valley's low-yielding, old vine vineyards. With a deft touch he crafts intense wines that are as complex and distinctive as the diverse terroir of his treasured Barossa Valley.

[www.johnduvalwines.com](http://www.johnduvalwines.com)



## Kilikanoon

Clare Valley, South Australia

Founded in 1997 by Kevin Mitchell, Kilikanoon is a boutique Clare Valley winery with an international reputation for producing regionally expressive, terroir-driven wines. The Kilikanoon property, featuring a circa 1860s stone cottage housing Kilikanoon tasting room, was originally settled by early English migrants who named it after an historic old mansion in Cornwall. On purchase of the historic property in 1997, mature vineyards of Shiraz, Cabernet, Grenache and Riesling that had been planted by Kevin's father, Mort in the 1960s, became a part of Kilikanoon, and now form the heart of the estate vineyards. 10 years on, with the addition of partners Nathan Waks, a principal cellist with the Sydney Symphony, and Bruce Baudinet, Managing Director of Oracle Estates, Kilikanoon is rated by US and Australian critics as one of the Clare Valley's outstanding wineries, producing bracingly intense and long-lived Rieslings, along with powerful, yet balanced Shiraz, Grenache and Cabernet Sauvignon.



[www.kilikanoon.com.au](http://www.kilikanoon.com.au)

## Leeuwin Estate

Margaret River, Western Australia

After an extensive search in 1972 to identify the most suitable Australian area for the production of premium varietal wines, Robert Mondavi singled out a small plot of land in the Margaret River region. At the time a cattle farm, Leeuwin Estate evolved under the direction of owners Denis and Tricia Horgan, with Mondavi acting as consultant and mentor. The Estate was thrust into the international spotlight when Decanter magazine awarded their highest recommendation to the 1980 Art Series Chardonnay. Now under the direction of two generations of the founding family, the Estate is recognized as one of Australia's leading wine producers and wine tourism pioneers. Featured three times in the prestigious category of "International Winery of the Year" by U.S. Wine & Spirits magazine, Leeuwin Estate wines consistently rank alongside the world's finest.

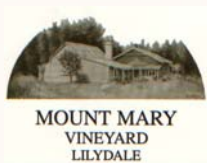


[www.leeuwinestate.com.au](http://www.leeuwinestate.com.au)

## Mount Mary

Yarra Valley, Victoria

The hallowed name in Australian wine circles and one that is present on nearly all of Australia's finest wine-lists. It's *the* estate that many Australian winemakers and critics use when referencing wine styles. Regarded as the most collectible Cabernet Sauvignon in Australia and afforded 'exceptional' classification alongside Penfolds Grange by Australia's leading wine auction house. A pioneer of the Yarra Valley's renaissance in the late 1960s, Mount Mary's Dr. John Middleton established a reputation for crafting wines that are the epitome of elegance and finesse.



[www.mountmary.com.au](http://www.mountmary.com.au)



## Plantagenet Estate

Great Southern, Western Australia

An historic producer, Plantagenet Wines was the first winery to be established in Western Australia's Great Southern wine region, an expansive area nestled into the state's rugged south west corner. Named after the local Shire of Plantagenet, the winery was founded in 1968 when English immigrant Tony Smith identified the potential of these wild and remote lands by planting vines on his Mount Barker property. His initial plantings impressed, producing Rhône-style Shirazes and stylish Cabernet Sauvignons. These were soon joined by Pinot Noir, Riesling and Chardonnay, aromatic varieties that would thrive in the cool, continental climate. From these humble beginnings, the Great Southern appellation has been further divided into five sub-regions, with Plantagenet Wines remaining a driving force in establishing this area as a distinctive, quality-focused Australian wine region.

[www.plantagenetwines.com](http://www.plantagenetwines.com)



## Penley Estate

Coonawarra, South Australia

Penley Estate is located in the heart of Australia's greatest Cabernet region: Coonawarra. Owner Kym Tolley, a direct descendant of the pioneering Penfold and Tolley winemaking families, has over 25 years winemaking experience, including tutelage under Grange creator Max Schubert. Continuing a family tradition that spans five generations, Tolley established Penley in 1988 on Coonawarra's famed "terra rossa" soils, with the aim of producing terroir driven wines of true regional character. Penley is now regarded as one of the region's leading producers.

[www.penley.com.au](http://www.penley.com.au)



## Shoofly

Regional Australia

Australians are serious about keeping their cool. They may look relaxed as they casually shoo away the incessantly buzzing flies, but the message is clear - nothing's going to get them down! They tend to take life's challenges in stride and simply get on with the job at hand. Like making wines with some oomph and stuffing, the sort you'd just as likely tuck into with your midweek pasta and take to a fancy dinner party on the weekend. That said, they take their winemaking pretty seriously, and it shows with Shoofly's collection of robust, full-of-flavor wines. Crafted from hand-selected vineyard sites that are rich in character and demonstrate true varietal pedigree, these are wines that show Australia at its best.

[www.shooflywines.com](http://www.shooflywines.com)



## Stickybeak

### Regional California

Ever been curious enough to stick your nose over someone's fence to see what's going on? Or peer through a crack in their front gate, just to get a better look? We have! Some people might say we're busybodies or nosey neighbors although we prefer the Australian term 'stickybeak.' And being Napa-based wine industry folk, it's hard to not be curious about the stunning vineyards and regions that surround us. In fact, as inquisitive vintners, it seemed only natural that we'd have a bit of a stickybeak in our own backyard to see what we could find. After setting up shop in Napa some 15 years ago and importing benchmark Australian wine estates, natural curiosity led us all over the state of California to taste, sip, spit and drink the best the state has to offer, all the while wondering how we could make our mark in the country we now call home.

[www.stickybeakwines.com](http://www.stickybeakwines.com)



## Yarra Yering

### Yarra Valley, Victoria

Regarded as one of the Yarra Valley's 'renaissance men,' Dr. Bailey Carrodus established Yarra Yering in 1969 on a carefully selected site with deep, gravelly soils. While shunning publicity over his 30 years of production, Dr. Carrodus has gained an enviable reputation for crafting some of Australia's finest, and most eclectic, wines. Intelligently made with exceptional depth of flavor, these are profound wines offering finesse and delicacy alongside demonstrated longevity. Wine critics continue to list them among the country's best, resulting in a cult following that sees each vintage's bounty sell out in mere days. Ultimately, persistence will pay in locating the Yarra Yering wines, as they will not search you out

[www.yarrayering.com](http://www.yarrayering.com)



## Yeringberg

### Yarra Valley, Victoria

A jewel of a vineyard (although only a miniscule 5 acres) replanted in 1969 on the site of what was one of Australia's most famous vineyards of the nineteenth century. Older vintages of the Cabernet have had critics such as Hugh Johnson draw comparisons to Chateau Lafite! The tradition continues with the grandson of the founder now producing perfectly poised wines from extremely low yielding vines. Will always be scarce.

[www.oldbridgecellars.com](http://www.oldbridgecellars.com)





## Zontes Foostep

Langhorne Creek, South Australia

Zonte's Foostep vineyard is named after Langhorne Creek's original 19th century plantings. More than one hundred years after the first plantings of the Zante currant variety were planted in the area, Ben Riggs and Zar Brooks teamed up with a group of mates to re-establish the property. All local grape growers and winemakers, these friends pooled old white pick-ups, new tractors and expertise, eventually establishing more than fifty separate blocks of red and white vinifera grapes to expand upon the original Zante plantings. And the footprint? This is the very same land that the world's largest marsupial, the Diprotodon (or giant wombat) roamed for more than 20 million years until becoming extinct twenty thousand years ago. Eons on, the Zonte's wines are firmly stamping out a footprint of their own, emerging as the vanguard in a revolution of Australian wine styles.

[www.zontesfoostep.com.au](http://www.zontesfoostep.com.au)

