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MEDIA RELEASE

TWO WEEKS UNTIL THE RIESLING WORLD'S BEST ASSEMBLE DOWN UNDER
Australia's leading Riesling producers prepare to host iconic international producers at
Riesling Downunder, 4-7 February 2018 in Melbourne and Sydney

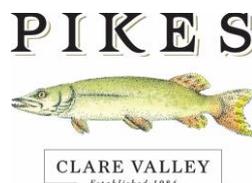
Not-to-be-missed opportunity for wine enthusiasts and professionals to relish, rejoice and revel in the world's most noble grape variety

22 January 2018: With just two weeks to go, excitement is growing for the 2018 Riesling Downunder event taking place in Melbourne and, for the first time, Sydney, from 4-7 February 2018.

Hosted by three of Australia's leading Riesling producers and featuring wines from over 80 producers from around the world, Riesling Downunder is an unrivalled celebration of the Riesling grape. Unusually for a wine event of this significance, Riesling Downunder will offer something for wine enthusiasts of all levels.

Riesling Downunder is open to members of the public as well as trade and will include the entertaining Riesling Riot tasting events (Melbourne and Sydney) as well as two days of educational masterclasses, tastings and lunches (Melbourne), giving Riesling lovers unfettered access to some of the best producers on the planet.

Established in 2001 as the biennial 'Frankland Estate International Riesling Tasting', Riesling Downunder is now held every three years and has evolved into one of the most collaborative and celebratory events of its kind. Co-hosted by Frankland Estate, Jim Barry Wines and Pikes Wines, Riesling Downunder is the most comprehensive international Riesling experience to be staged in the southern hemisphere.





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Riesling, the world's most democratic grape?

Riesling has a long history in Australia. It was one of the original grape varieties planted by the earliest European settlers. While generally synonymous with South Australia's Clare and Eden Valleys, Riesling is now planted from the ACT and Victoria through to Western Australia's Great Southern and Tasmania.

Riesling Downunder is partnering with some of Australia and New Zealand's most exciting Riesling producers, including Crawford River Estate, Rieslingfreak and Framingham Wines. As well, Riesling Downunder will showcase some of the Riesling world's most dynamic international producers, including Erni Loosen of Dr Loosen, Johannes Hasselbach of Gunderloch and Vincent Bründlmayer, as well as Rieslings from as far afield as Washington State in the US Pacific North West.

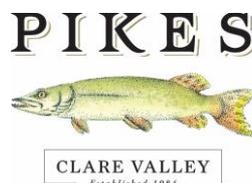
Australia is second only to Germany in terms of total plantings of Riesling, and there is now more Riesling planted in Australia than in France. Known as the 'King of Grapes', Riesling produces a greater diversity of wine styles than any other grape, exhibiting flavour profiles ranging from crisp fresh citrus and granite minerals through to sweeter, more old-fashioned styles aged in oak.

Riesling is an amazingly versatile and flexible grape variety, which fits extremely well into Australia's eclectic and exciting food scene. This is a rare opportunity to gain an insight into the rejuvenation and fast-growing popularity of Riesling.

Event Program

SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY: RIESLING RIOT MELBOURNE

Taking place at Melbourne's Regent Theatre and open to the wine-loving public, press and wine trade, Riesling Riot is a Riesling party not to be missed, with the largest collection of Rieslings ever seen in the Southern Hemisphere available to taste. Over 70 producers from around the globe will come together to share great wines, good food and music.





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MONDAY 5-TUESDAY 6 FEBRUARY: TASTINGS AND MASTERCLASSES MELBOURNE

Arts Centre Melbourne: With 2 days of tastings and masterclasses moderated by Mike Bennie, the Riesling Downunder Masterclasses will provide the opportunity for Australian Riesling producers, the wine industry and public to further their understanding and appreciation of Riesling, with topics ranging from the much-anticipated Sites and Styles Masterclass to the International Dry Riesling Tasting.

WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY: RIESLING RIOT SYDNEY

For the first time, Riesling Downunder will move to the Sydney Town Hall, where Riesling lovers can meet the world's most iconic producers, discover the most exciting new Rieslings to hit the market and explore new and emerging regions, all under one roof.

Further information

To purchase tickets, please visit www.rieslingdownunder.com.au

For further information please email info@rieslingdownunder.com.au

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