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MEDIA RELEASE

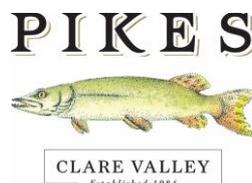
TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT RIESLING WITH THE WORLD'S BEST
Two days of open Masterclasses to be run as part of Riesling Downunder
Melbourne, 5-6 February 2018

1 February 2018: Join Australia's and the world's Riesling experts for two days of controversial and insightful discussion at a series of Tastings and Masterclasses, being held at the Arts Centre, Melbourne on Monday 5 and Tuesday 6 February as part of the 2018 Riesling Downunder event.

Hosted by respected wine and drinks writer and journalist Mike Bennie, Masterclass sessions are open to both members of the public and wine trade alike. The Masterclasses will feature some of the leading lights of the Riesling world including Erni Loosen from Germany's Dr Loosen vineyard, Kerri Thompson from Wines by KT in the Clare Valley, and renowned Austrian winemaker Vincent Bründlmayer from Weingut Bründlmayer, who will all provide insights into the process of Riesling winemaking, and perspectives on the future of the Riesling grape as it continues to evolve as one of the world's most planted (and most consumed!) grape varieties. For all levels of expertise, these Masterclasses present a significant opportunity for Australian wine lovers and the wine industry in general to deepen their understanding and appreciation of the Riesling grape.

Tasting and Masterclasses Program Overview

Monday 5 February: The Masterclasses will kick off with what is expected to be a lively debate about the diversity of Riesling styles and their merit in today's wine market at the Tradition, Trials and Today's Table session (9:30am-12pm). This will be followed by the International Dry Riesling Tasting (2-5pm), the benchmark tasting of the Riesling Downunder event and widely recognised as one of the world's finest celebrations of the quality and





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diversity of dry Riesling wines in a showcase of Rieslings from Austria to Australia, Canada, USA, New Zealand, Germany, France and more.

Tuesday 6 February: Organisers believe that the Sites and Styles Masterclass (9-11am) will be one of the highlights of the entire four days of the Riesling Downunder event. This session will provide attendees with the opportunity to discover some of the most compelling single-site wines from around Australia through discussion with the producers of these wines, as well as exploring the challenges of achieving diversity of style from just one site. Attendees will also have the opportunity to compare how these featured wines compare alongside some of the great vineyard sites around the world.

Following Sites and Styles, the Masterclass series will conclude with a discussion of The Relevance of Riesling (11:30am-12:30pm) as industry leaders delve deeply into the distribution, sales and marketing side of Riesling. Learn more about who's buying what, what's hot and what's not, and find out whether Riesling has what it takes to remain sustainable and relevant in today's market.

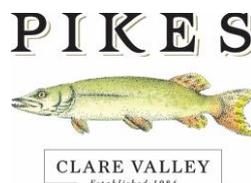
Ticket Information for the Riesling Downunder Tastings and Masterclasses (Melbourne)

A variety of ticket options and prices are available for the Masterclass series:

- **2 Day Pass:** \$450 plus GST (includes lunch on both days at The Arbory Bar & Eatery)
- **1 Day Pass:** \$300 plus GST (includes lunch at The Arbory Bar & Eatery)
- **Single session:** \$150 plus GST (lunch not included)
- To book, please go to <http://rieslingdownunder.com.au/tastings-and-masterclasses-melbourne/>

Notes for Editors

Established in 2001 as the biennial 'Frankland Estate International Riesling Tasting', Riesling Downunder is now held every three years. Co-hosted by three of Australia's leading Riesling producers, 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 Downunder is open to members of the public as well as trade and will include the Riesling Riot tasting events (Melbourne and Sydney) as well as two days of educational masterclasses, tastings and lunches (Melbourne).

Further information

- To purchase tickets, please visit www.rieslingdownunder.com.au
- For further information please email info@rieslingdownunder.com.au
- For media enquiries please contact Kate Rowlands Marquis on 0437 005 173 or email ksrowlands@hotmail.com

