

# Orange Wine Region: In review

The Australian, Published 6/1/2011

The Orange wine region has developed in to a region of huge potential and a key player in the modernisation of Australian wines, particularly Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc.

There are approximately 157,291 hectares\* of vines in Australia, with Orange accounting for less than one percent of this at 1500 hectares. Within these vineyards, Orange has approximately 200 hectares of Chardonnay (0.7% of the national Chardonnay vines\*) and 100 hectares of Sauvignon Blanc (1.6%).

“Orange makes up a small percentage of the national vineyard,” commented Taste Orange Executive Officer Kim Currie. “However, over the past five years, the region has been particularly competitive with its wine quality, and with taking its wines, and food, to the market.”

“Events such as Taste Orange @ Bondi have attracted huge interest in the region, and these consumers are travelling

back here to experience it first hand during Orange F.O.O.D. Week and Wine Week.”

2010 was a successful year for the wines of Orange, with a growing list of Australian and international wine show awards including;

Five Orange wines in the Top 40 Wines, [2010 NSW Wine Awards](#) including; Trophy for the ‘Best Young Sauvignon Blanc’. Trophy for the ‘Best Young Red Blend’ with a Cabernet Merlot.

Trophy, ‘Best Sauvignon Blanc’ at the [2010 NSW Small Winemakers Wine Show](#)

Sauvignon Blanc Medallion, [Winewise Championship 2010](#)

Trophy for ‘Best Pinot Gris’ at the [Cowra Wine Show 2010](#)

Trophy ‘Other White Varieties’, (Pinot Gris) [Winewise Small Vignerons Awards 2010](#)

Trophies for the ‘Best Shiraz Award 2010’ and ‘Best Red Wine Award 2010’ at [The Shanghai International Wine Challenge 2010](#)

Two Orange wines ranked equal 5<sup>th</sup> with Gold Medals at the [Great Australian Shiraz Challenge 2010](#)

Gold Medal for an Orange region Pinot Noir at the [2010 New Zealand International Wine Show](#)

2011 promises to be another exciting year for the Orange wine region, with the winemakers planning to take their wines on a road show around Australia. In Taste Orange Executive Officer Kim Currie's words, “Our region is maturing, both with our winemaking and with the distribution of our wines. We are planning to take our wines across Australia to show both the trade and consumers the quality of our wines.”