



STIR N. SPIRIT

An end of vintage
winemaking
celebration in
Margaret River

1 - 5
May
2022

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“With wine and hope, anything is possible.” - Spanish proverb

Vintage is complete. No more pre-dawn and late night grape picking sessions. No more worry about rain, hail, storms, heat, sunburn or drought. Winemakers' shoulders drop, a sigh of relief is had and it's one of the most anticipated times of the year in the winemaking calendar.

The grapes have been picked and the harvest is done for another year. Now all the action continues in the winery and it's time to celebrate the end of vintage.



Due to the intimate nature of this experience, places are limited and strictly first come, first served.

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This four-day winemaking immersion is curated and facilitated by Cassandra Charlick. A freelance travel and wine writer, Cassandra writes for Halliday magazine, Gourmet Traveller Wine magazine, Delicious. magazine, Escape magazine, and many more publications. She's a reviewer for the WA Good Food Guide and presenter on Channel Nine's *Our State on a Plate*.

You'll be privy to insider wine travel tips, behind-the-scenes insider knowledge, and a side of Margaret River that you've never seen before, no matter how many times you've holidayed here - or how many bottles of Margs Cab Sav you've sipped.

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Our Stir n' Swirl end of vintage winemaking celebration includes the following:

- 4 nights luxury accommodation in either twin share or double. Twin share includes a king bed and private ensuite per person.
- All meals and beverages
- A private chef (with an Australian Good Food Guide hat and in the WA top 50 three years running) for the entirety of your stay, carefully curating each dish to pair with the wine you'll be exploring.
- A day in the vineyard and winery making small batch syrah with Sasha and Ben MacDonald: owners, farmers and winemakers of Glenarty Road. Glenarty Road recently won Western Australia's top Regional Restaurant of the Year in the WA Good Food Guide Awards. Cheese or sausage making session and paddock to plate lunch.
- Two days of hiking through the Margaret River region with a private guide. Uncover secret picnic spots that connect you with the true sense of place and indulge in a delicious local lunch with paired wines that speak of the landscape you have been hiking through.
- Savour freshly cooked and caught abalone on the beach while learning about the unique winemaking and sustainability practises from the winemakers of La Kooki Wines.
- A decadent autumnal feast and private tasting with one of Margaret River's most respected and awarded winemakers. Jimmy Watson winner and runner up Halliday Winemaker of the Year 2021.
- All transfers from arrival through until departure and plenty more wine filled surprises

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DAY 1

PM

Arrive at your little slice of paradise that you'll be calling home for the next four nights. Tanah Merah is one of Margaret River's best kept secrets and the luxury chalets often get booked out well in advance by return guests who have discovered the tranquil luxury retreat just minutes from the centre of town.

Relax and unpack before an evening celebration and decadent dinner. You may choose to enjoy a self guided walk of the property - there are over 7km of trails to explore. Or perhaps a hit of tennis on the property's tennis courts and a round of golf on the private 9 hole course. Of course, relaxing with a good book and a glass of wine is also a very acceptable way to settle into your new home for the week!



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DAY 1 CONT'D

It's time to kick off the end of vintage celebrations! We'll gather under the stars and warm up by the fire-pit with a welcome drink before dinner.

Our private chef for the week is Mel Kokoti, the head chef at Xanadu Restaurant and holder of an Australian Good Food Guide hat who has also held a place in the WA top 50 restaurants for three years running. Mel will be preparing a seasonal and sumptuous three course evening meal to toast to the majesty of wine with.



This is a relaxed evening getting to know a little more about the region and its wines, along with meeting and greeting your fellow guests for the experience. Cassandra will share the highlights of the 2022 vintage in Margaret River before you get ready to help with the red winemaking process tomorrow.

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DAY 2 AM

Enjoy a breakfast of local produce in the comfort of your chalet before we head down to the southern sub-region of Karridale to get our hands dirty in the winery at Glenarty Road. Join fifth generation farmer Ben and his winemaker-wife Sasha as they share their farming and winemaking philosophies with you while you see the work in action and get amongst the action.

With a private tour of the farm you'll gain an understanding of the vineyard and the practices that Ben employs to grow the healthiest grapes possible, along with the farming of his crops and animals. Every element of the farm has a part to play in the creation of the wines from Glenarty, and as with many of the great European food and wine pairings it is very often the produce of the region that is a perfect match for the wines from that area. With this in mind, what better way to prepare for lunch than with a cheese making session? Glenarty draws foodies from afar for its house-made Burrata, and this is your chance to learn the secrets.



By now, tummies will start to rumble so it's off for a tasting of the Glenarty Road Wildlings wine portfolio with Sasha, before a paddock to plate feast from their award winning restaurant where you'll be able to see how the farm produce works perfectly to complement the wines made here from the same land. the WA top 50 restaurants

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DAY 2 CONT'D

Fueled up from feasting, the afternoon sees us heading into the winery shed with winemaker Sasha to get your hands dirty making the 2022 vintage of Glenarty's small batch syrah.

Put theory into practice as you learn about the different approaches and techniques used to produce a hand made and minimal interventional red wine. You'll taste many other wines of the current vintage in progress from the barrel.



Enjoy canapes as the sun slowly sets over the lake, and you settle in for a relaxed two course autumnal feast by chef Mel. Wines have been carefully selected, and this evening Cassandra will take you on a tour of some of her favourite cooler weather wines of Margaret River.

Stargazing and sipping wine is what tonight is all about.

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DAY 3

AM

With the picking of the season well and truly completed by now, you'll be pleased to know there are no dawn wake-ups for this end of vintage celebration..

Enjoy a hearty in-room breakfast before strapping up your walking shoes for a day on the trails of Margaret River. Local guide Dianne James has been living and taking visitors on hikes and bike tours in the region for over seventeen years.

We will be traversing a route that follows the Boodjidup river - a key influence to many of the wineries near to the Margaret River township such as Leeuwin Estate, Voyager Estate, Redgate and Xanadu.

PM

With the sound of waves lapping on the shore and one of the region's untouched stretches of coastline to gaze upon we will enjoy a relaxed and warming gourmet beachside picnic to refuel after a morning of working up a gentle sweat on the trails.

Enjoy the rest of the afternoon at Tanah Merah relaxing with views of the lake or continuing to explore the estate.

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DAY 3 CONT'D

After a restful afternoon, it's time to dress up and enjoy an elegant black tie degustation to celebrate the 2022 vintage. As the late afternoon settles into evening, we have a couple of very special guests to take us through their boutique wine portfolio.



Glenn Goodall and Eloise Jarvis are the winemakers of La Kooki wines, one of the region's most exciting new wine labels. Ely grew up in Margaret River, and they have both lived here together since 1998 while being heavily ingrained in the wine industry. When not busy with La Kooki, Glenn is chief winemaker at Xanadu Winery and one of the country's most respected and awarded winemakers, having won the Jimmy Watson award and a runner up for Halliday Winemaker of the Year in 2021.

Ely has over twenty years of winemaker experience in the region and is also the Sustainability Engagement Officer for the Margaret River Wine Association. You'll be guided personally by Glenn and Ely through a private tasting of their portfolio, as well as a special preview of the 2022 vintage with samples straight from the tank and barrel to fully understand the evolution of wines.

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This is your chance to get up close and personal with the journey of wine, and a true understanding of how process leads to the final product, plus the role that ageing and cellaring wine plays in the development of tertiary characteristics. Afterwards enjoy wines paired with Mel's multi course dinner, including a seasonal spit-roast over the fire.

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DAY 4

AM



Enjoy an in-room breakfast basket at Tanah Merah before another chance to enjoy the idyllic winter sunshine in the great outdoors. It's time to again strap up your hiking boots and hit the trails with Di.

We will be heading down to the coastal region, where you'll learn more about the ocean influenced Margaret River terroir and the reasons why so many winemakers cross the globe to call this region home.

This section of the Cape to Cape is a favourite with walkers, and after last year's fire season it is a unique time to witness the regrowth of the native bushland and experience the resilience of mother nature.

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DAY 4 CONT'D

How many hikes have you been on which involve a picnic lunch of freshly caught abalone cooked right by the water they were pulled from?

PM

Lunch like royalty amongst the beauty of the region, with paired wines and Ely joining us to discuss sustainable winemaking and the unique La Kooki process that involves the coastal environment like no other producer. After lunch it's back to Tanah Merah to relax and enjoy a savoury afternoon tea.



Don't get too comfy with those snacks as we have a three course seasonal feast to complete our post vintage celebration! If you've ever wondered what "vintage" really means, and how different vintage conditions can affect a wine, then now is the time to find out. Cassandra will guide you through a dissection of cool and warm vintage wines, and discuss where the 2022 vintage fits amongst these warm and cool vintage profiles.

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DAY 5



Continue to enjoy your breakfast supplies provided earlier at your pace and speed. Enjoy the morning at Tanah Merah before a special farewell from your hosts and the team. If you'd like to continue your stay in Margaret River we would be more than happy to suggest additional itinerary options to compliment your Stir n' Swirl experience.



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