# **Sparkling production**

2011 saw an increase in sparkling wine production, predominantly reflecting increase market demand, although a small percentage of the increase resulted from risk management in the face of unfavourable weather. 2011 saw a slight increase in Pinot Noir made into sparkling wine, around 9% of total Pinot Noir compared with 6.5% in 2010.

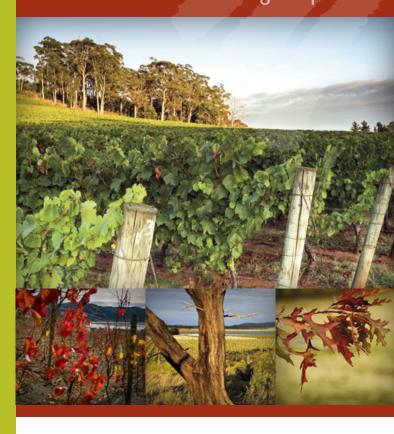
| Variety                           | Total<br>Tonnage | Sparkling<br>(Tonnes) | Varietal<br>Total<br>(%) | Variance<br>on 2010<br>(%) |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Pinot Noir                        | 3,425            | 1,412                 | 32.4                     | +8.9                       |
| Chardonnay                        | 2,164            | 1,485                 | 72.5                     | +2.3                       |
| Pinot Meunier                     | 45               | 45                    | 100.0                    | 0                          |
| Other varieties                   | 2,157            | 149                   | 0                        | 0                          |
| Total (including other varieties) | 7,791            | 3,091                 | 39.6                     | +13.0                      |

#### **Historical Production**

| Vintage | Bearing Area (Ha) | Tonnes |
|---------|-------------------|--------|
| 1986    | 47                | 154    |
| 1994    | 283               | 1,116  |
| 1995    | 318               | 2,154  |
| 1996    | 322               | 1,874  |
| 1997    | 369               | 1,448  |
| 1998    | 445               | 3,113  |
| 1999    | 463               | 3,199  |
| 2000    | 507               | 3,263  |
| 2001    | 618               | 4,645  |
| 2002    | 712               | 2,496  |
| 2003    | 978               | 6,390  |
| 2004    | 1,048             | 7,861  |
| 2005    | 981               | 6,136  |
| 2006    | 999               | 5,571  |
| 2007    | 1,196             | 5,058  |
| 2008    | 1,315             | 9,628  |
| 2009    | 1,549             | 5,045  |
| 2010    | 1,388             | 7,388  |
| 2011    | 1,392             | 7,791  |

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# **WINE TASMANIA** 2011 Tasmanian Vintage Report





#### Wine Tasmania

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#### **Overview**

Whilst the 2011 vintage was the wettest on record for a number of Australian wine regions, it was just the 17th wettest vintage period in Tasmania, according to meteorologists.

The growing season was cool and moist, promising delayed maturity but potentially strong yields due to consistent soil moisture availability. Mild weather and frequent rainfall encouraged vegetative growth and full bunches, but also brought disease pressure.

The strong vegetative growth meant increased shoot thinning and leaf plucking to keep canopies open. Unseasonal heavy rain in mid January over some important growing areas, followed by three further heavy rains in February, March and April increased disease pressure as fruit was ripening.

As veraison was delayed and ripening took longer than usual, due to cool, cloudy and wet weather, growers reassessed their crop loads and started bunch thinning to ensure the fruit could be ripened before the onset of senescence.

Disease management was undertaken with great care and forethought, as it usually is in Tasmania, and this inherent skill has resulted in 2011 wines of high quality. The majority of fruit in Tasmania is hand-harvested from small patches, so picking was not problematic.

The ripening conditions led to full flavour development at lower sugar levels than expected, with high natural acidity. Growers were left with a harvest of delicate yet concentrated fruit of superior quality, great acidity and lower Baumé.



# **Areas & Yield by Variety**

| Variety                           | Bearing Area<br>(Hectares) | Non Bearing<br>Area<br>(Hectares) | Yield<br>(tonnes) |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Pinot Noir                        | 584                        | 46                                | 3,425             |
| Chardonnay                        | 327                        | 25                                | 2,164             |
| Sauvignon Blanc                   | 155                        | 24                                | 776               |
| Riesling                          | 105                        | 5                                 | 550               |
| Pinot Gris                        | 105                        | 8                                 | 517               |
| Cabernet Sauvignon                | 46                         | 1                                 | 162               |
| Merlot                            | 19                         | 0                                 | 66                |
| Traminer                          | 19                         | 1                                 | 60                |
| Other Varieties                   | 32                         | 12                                | 71                |
| Total (including minor varieties) | 1,392                      | 122                               | 7,791             |

Sauvignon Blanc has leapt ahead of Pinot Gris and Riesling to become the third most popular variety planted in Tasmania.

# **Yield by Wine Growing Area**

| Area              | Bearing Area<br>(Hectares) | Yield<br>(Tonnes) |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Tamar Valley      | 473                        | 2,649             |
| East Coast        | 265                        | 1,480             |
| North East        | 251                        | 1,402             |
| Coal River Valley | 237                        | 1,325             |
| Derwent Valley    | 84                         | 468               |
| Huon / Channel    | 70                         | 390               |
| North West        | 14                         | 78                |
| Total             | 1392                       | 7,791             |

Regional differences have not substantially altered, however there has been a large increase in the bearing area on the East Coast.

# **Tasmania's Wine Growing Areas**

There are seven recognised wine growing areas in Tasmania, with significant variations in climate and soil conditions enhancing the varietal characters of the state's wines. The areas are: North West, North East, Tamar Valley, East Coast, Derwent Valley, Coal River Valley and the Huon/Channel in the south.

### **Wine Regions of Tasmania**

