

More information . . .

Information on how smoke taint occurs, fact sheets from the Australian Wine Research Institute and access to TasVine – a map showing vineyard locations – can be found at winetasmania.com.au/smokeandvineyards



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SMOKE TAIN & WINE GRAPES

A *good!* neighbour's guide:
{what it is and how to avoid it}





SMOKE TAINT

What is smoke taint?

When vineyards are exposed to smoke, the grapes absorb this from the atmosphere. This can result in wines with undesirable sensory characters that are described as 'smoke tainted' and are consequently unable to be sold.

How does it occur?

In a similar fashion to the way that the smell of smoke gets trapped in clothing, it also permeates the thin skin of grapes. Volatile phenols are the aroma compounds produced by fire and they enter directly through the skin of the grape. Not all smoke leads to smoke taint but the risks increase with smoke density, exposure time and proximity to the fire.

Why does it matter?

Tasmania's wine sector is worth more than \$374M to the state annually (plus wine tourism), employing locals and encouraging visitors into our regional areas and cellar doors. For Tassie's wine producers, severe smoke damage can mean a whole year's harvest – and their livelihood – is destroyed.

When can it occur?

The risk of smoke taint begins when grapes first appear on vines (December) through to the end of harvest – usually May/June – this varies by each season and vineyard location. Consult your local vineyards for more information on exact timings.

& WINE GRAPES



What can I do? {How can I be a good neighbour?}

If you are planning to burn, please do the neighbourly thing – to avoid significant and irreversible damage to wine grapes and businesses.

- consult with nearby vineyards (at least within a 15km radius or likely to be impacted by smoke travelling down a valley) – access the TasVine map for details of neighbouring vineyards (see below)
- check the weather and wind conditions to ascertain which vineyards might be impacted
- discuss with neighbouring vineyards their harvest status, timing and potential risks posed by smoke – a short postponement of a fire may be all that's needed to prevent irreparable damage to this year's harvest
- early conversations when planning fires are the best

What is TasVine?

TasVine is a map produced by Wine Tasmania to provide fire management agencies and landholders with the location of every known vineyard, with contact details for Wine Tasmania members. For more information visit winetasmania.com.au/smokeandvineyards

