



Our Agenda

Australia Beyond Shiraz

Introduction: Geography and Terroir
 Riesling—Clare Valley and Eden Valley
 Taste-along: Clare Valley Riesling

 5 minute break

Tahbilk Marsanne
 Cool climate regions—Pinot Noir
 Taste-along:

 5 minute break

Hunter Valley Semillon
 Rutherglen Fortified Wines

Today's Presenters

Val Caruso, CWE, DipWSET, FWS



Lucia Volk, CWE

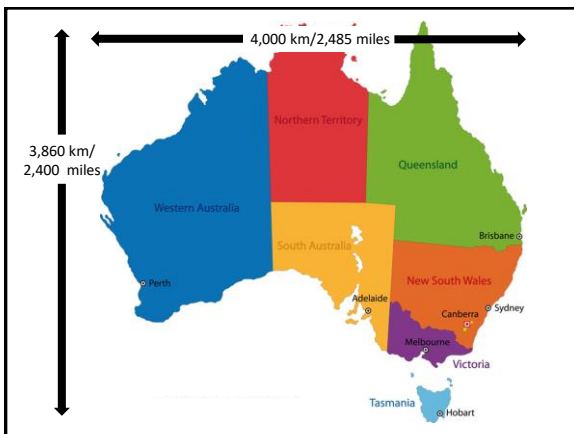


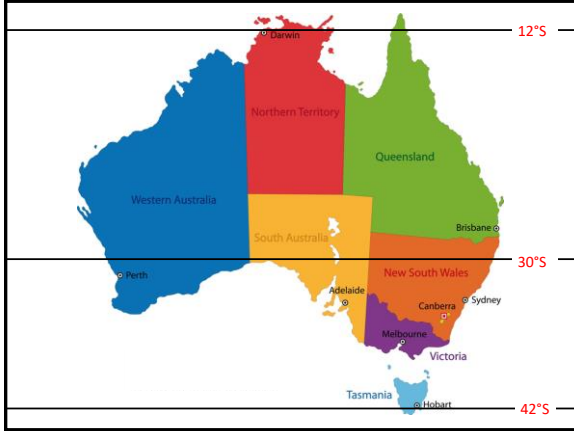
Jane Nickles, CSE, CWE

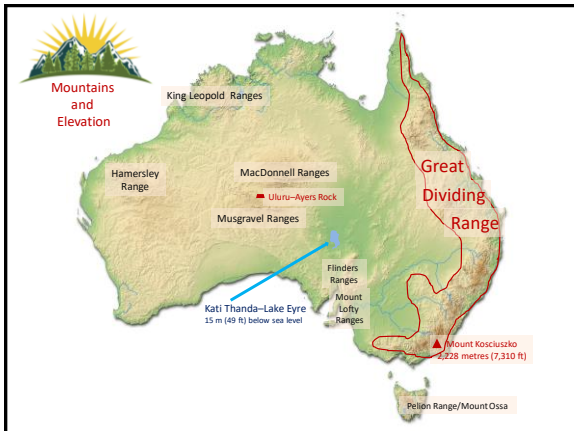


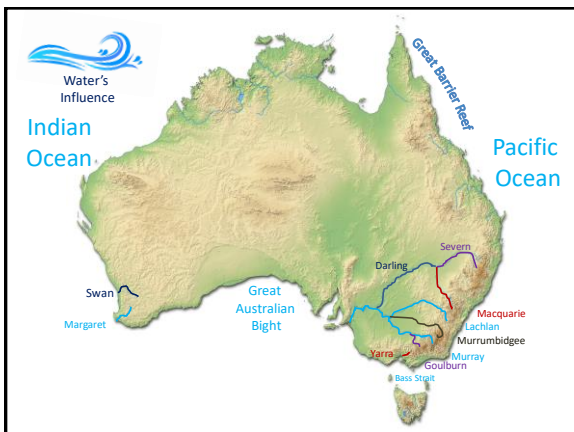
Introduction: Geography and Terroir

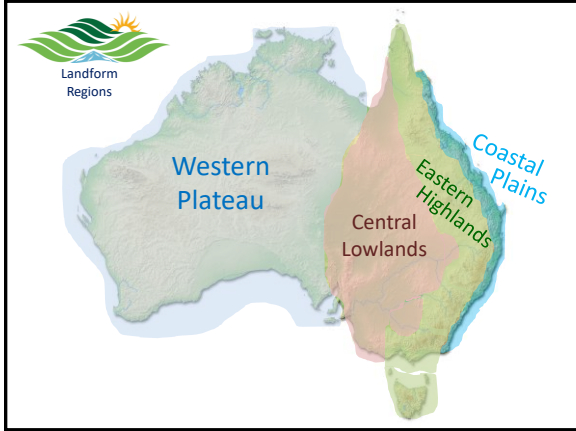


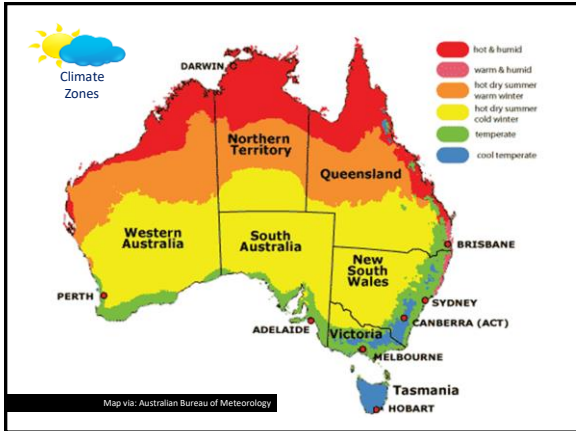


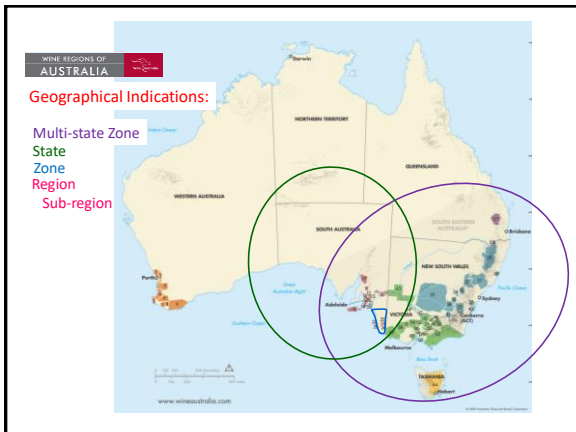






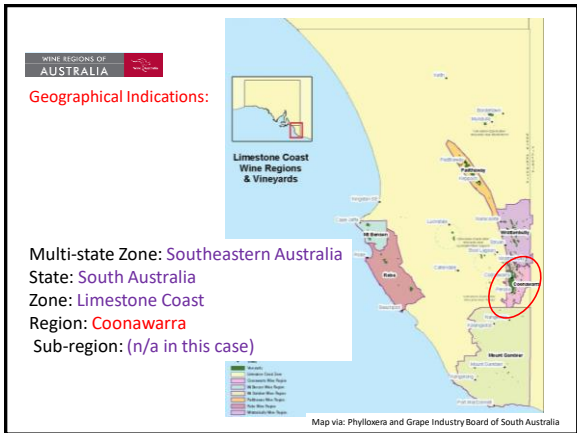


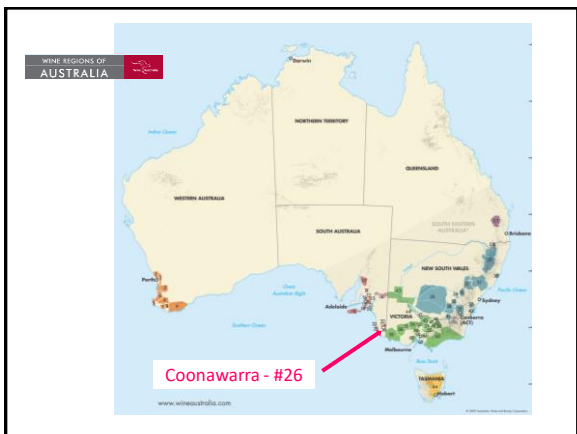




Example GI: Coonawarra

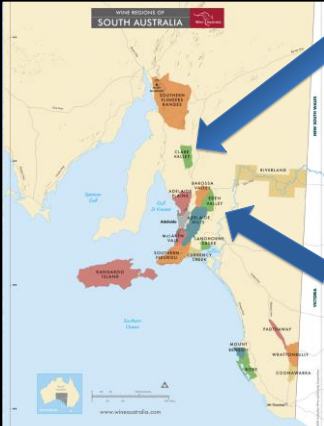












Clare Valley
 -northern extension of the Barossa Valley; part of Mount Lofty Ranges zone (designated in 1996)
 -diurnal temp. changes in summer 100F/60F
 -Riesling grows on east-facing slopes next to world-class Shiraz and Cab

Eden Valley
 -eastern extension of the dry and hot Barossa Valley
 -not a flat valley, but series of hills and slopes
 -Shiraz in the north, Riesling in the south of valley

Global Riesling in Comparison

Riesling Länder / Countries	Rebfläche/Vineyard area in ha
Deutschland	23.809
Rumänien	6.121
USA	4.605
Frankreich	4.025
Australien	3.157
Ukraine	2.700
China	2.500
Österreich	2.068
Italien	1.681
Moldawien	1.343
Insgesamt / Total**	63.936



https://www.deutscheweine.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Website/Service/Downloads/Statistik_2018-2019.pdf -- global numbers are from 2015; Germany's from 2017

Australia's Riesling in Comparison

Plantings		
<i>Source: ABS National Vineyard Survey 2015</i>	Riesling	All varieties
Area planted in Australia (hectares)	3,157	135,133
Percentage of total area	2%	
Percentage of white varieties	7%	

Crush		
<i>Source: National Vintage Survey 2017</i>	Riesling	All varieties
Tonnes crushed in 2017	28,330	1,929,630
Percentage of total crush	1%	
Percentage of white crush	3%	

Top five regions % of total crush		
	Riesling	All varieties
Clare Valley	28%	2%
Eden Valley	12%	1%
Riverina	11%	18%
Riverland	10%	28%
Langhorne Creek	9%	3%
Others	30%	48%

<https://www.wineaustralia.com/getmedia/15a5c97e-f805-47ad-9298-8beb7be53afc/Riesling-snapshot-2018.pdf>

Eden Valley vs. Clare Valley Top 5

Top five varieties in Eden Valley in 2017	Share of tonnes	Av price/tonne
Shiraz	30%	\$2,375
Riesling	26%	\$1,573
Cabernet Sauvignon	12%	\$2,049
Chardonnay	12%	\$1,203
Pinot Gris/Grigio	4%	\$1,297

vs.

Top five varieties in Clare Valley in 2017	Share of tonnes	Av price/tonne
Shiraz	35%	\$1,417
Riesling	25%	\$1,035
Cabernet Sauvignon	19%	\$1,095
Merlot	5%	\$843
Chardonnay	5%	\$717

Stuart Pigott on Australian Riesling



- “Australia is on a different Riesling wavelength than the rest of the planet ... Australian Rieslings tend toward austerity, at least compared with those from relatively cool and damp Europe.”
- *The Riesling Story* (2014)

Fun Fact: Historically, Riesling was the most widely planted white grape in Australia—much of it destined to become bulk or fortified wine—before getting overtaken by Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, and Semillon.

Riesling Taste Comparison

Clare + Eden Valley

- piercing lime, some white flower, earthy minerality, wet stone in dry wines; lime, apricot, even savory notes in sweeter wines
- as wines age, they become toasty; can age 10-20 years easily

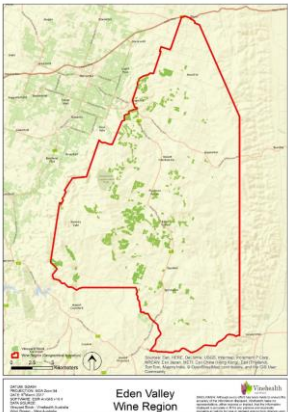
Mosel Riesling

- refreshing acidity alongside flower aromas, honey-crisp apples and pears, stone fruit, minerality, spices, wet stone, occasional green herbs; increasing aromas of honey, honeysuckle, riper stone fruit, exotic fruit, etc. as wines get older/sweeter

“Petrol” or “Kerosene” notes develop quite early in Australian bottles due to higher sun exposure (compared with German or Austrian bottles).

Eden Valley Region







Eden Valley in #s

- Australian Geographic Indication in 1997
- Sub-zone High Eden (2001) is highest point of the valley
- 2,300ha/5,500acres of vineyard land
- 1,200 - 1,640ft high
- mod. continental climate
- average rainfall: 11 inches
- soils: sand and clay loam, gneiss, quartz gravels
- marginally higher & notably cooler than Clare Valley

Eden Valley History



- Captain Joseph Gilbert migrated from Vale of Pewsey in Southwest England to Australia and established **Pewsey Vale** Vineyard in 1847 (same year as Jacob's Creek in Barossa Valley)
- irrigation was a challenge and grape growing remained limited
- 1950s saw EV's viticulture take off



Eden Valley History, cont'd

- Henschke and Hill-Smith families leaders in Eden Valley/Barossa Valley renaissance away from bulk and fortified wines to high quality table wine
- Henschkes sold their first Riesling in 1868; sent family members to study viticulture in Europe in the 1960's and 1970's -> cold fermentation of white wines
- The Hill-Smith family planted first vineyard in Angaston in 1849, and called it Yalumba ("all the land around"); purchased Pewsey Vale in 1961 and their 1966 Riesling set new benchmark
- Henschke and Yalumba have pushed for higher quality Australian wines and are founding members of **Australia's First Families of Wine** (2009)

Eden Valley Rieslings to know:

- Yalumba’s Pewsey Vale Riesling and Pewsey Vale Countours Riesling (released only at 5-10 years of age) from the High Eden sub-region
- Henschke’s Julius Riesling, with “bold, dramatic, mineral freshness” (Pigott)
- Steingarten Vineyard which some consider Australia’s most distinctive Riesling (Jacob’s Creek)



PEWSEY VALE



THE PEWSEY VALE VINEYARD WAS ESTABLISHED AT EDEN VALLEY IN 1947 PRODUCING SOME OF AUSTRALIA'S FIRST COOL CLIMATE WINES. THE EARLY PEWSEY VALE RIESLINGS WERE EXPORTED TO ENGLAND WHERE THEY WON NUMEROUS AWARDS IN THE PRESTIGIOUS WINE SHOWS OF THE ERA. TODAY PEWSEY VALE VINEYARD IS A HIGHLY ESTEEMED SPECIALIST SINGLE SITE ESTATE VINEYARD WITH PROVENANCE. RIESLING IS OUR SINGLE FOCUS

SINGLE VINEYARD ESTATE
EDEN VALLEY
1961 BLOCK
RIESLING
 VINTAGE 2017



Clare Valley Region



Clare Valley in numbers

- Australian Geographic Indication in 1999
- 4,300 ha/10,625 acres of vineyard area
- vineyards at 1,300-1,800ft
- moderate continental climate: cold nights, warm to hot days
- annual rainfall: 25 inches, primarily in winter; about 7 inches during growing season
- 11 recognized soil types: terra rosa top soil over limestone, slate, alluvial spoils, sandy loam, clay, quartz, etc.
- only 1.3% of Australia's total wine production; but 20% of Australia's total Riesling production

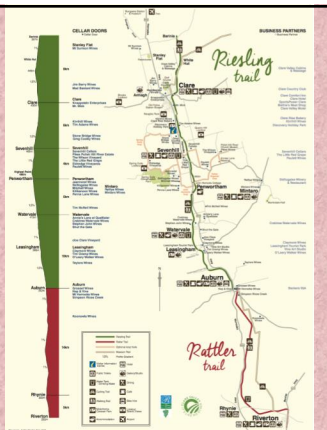
Clare Valley History

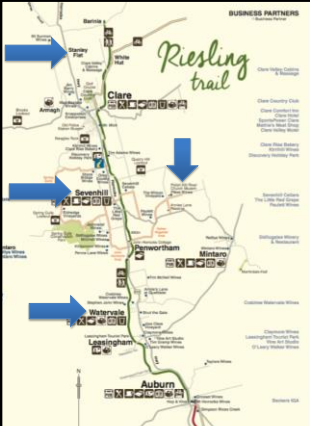
- Jesuit priests planted first vines in 1851 at Sevenhill OR European settlers from England, Silesia, and Poland arrived in 1840s, planting vines for personal use
- Initially, the region drew people to sheep farming and gold/copper mining, and only later to commercial viticulture; remained relatively remote and isolated until mid-1900s
- 1983 Ash Wednesday Bushfires burnt over 6,000 ha/15,000 acres in the to-date deadliest bushfire in Australian history

Clare Valley Riesling Trail

33 kilometers long, the Riesling Trail was originally a railway line that traveled between Adelaide and Spalding that was first established in 1860. After a bushfire closed down the line in 1983, it was converted into a recreation trail for walking and biking and visiting 30+ cellar doors. Several of the wineries also operate breweries.

<http://rieslingtrail.com.au/>





Clare Valley Sections

- 1) **Stanley Flat**: flattest and hottest section of CV, due to warm westerlies from Spencer Gulf; mostly Shiraz
- 2) **Sevenhill**: center of CV, surrounded by woods of eucalyptus trees, whose oils blend with Riesling and Shiraz wines
- 3) **Polish Hill**: freely draining, black slate soil, produces smaller berries; yielding unique zesty minerality
- 4) **Watervale**: open to Gulf St. Vincent breezes, cooling nighttime temp's, preserving high acidity

Clare Valley Riesling to try:

- Jim Barry's Watervale Riesling which is platinum in color, with "lime flavors, floral, spicy, dense, and weightless" → 93 Points (Best Buy \$20) W&S Feb. 2019
- Kilikanoon's Killerman's Run Riesling with classic lemon/lime notes and green apple finish; a hint of residual RS → 90 Points (Best Buy \$20) W&S Feb. 2019
- Jeffrey Grosset's Polish Hill Riesling grown on slate mined for pool and billiard tables → 93 Points (\$52) W&S Feb. '19





SHUT THE GATE
CLARE VALLEY

2012 WATERVALE RIESLING

Finally, a shout-out to Australian wine label artists!!





*Here are my tasting notes for
Pikes "Traditionale" Riesling, Clare Valley, 2017*

- 100% Riesling
- 11.5% abv
- Night harvest
- Stainless steel, temperature-controlled ferment
- Aromas: Lemon, lime, grapefruit, white flowers, chalk/mineral/wet stone
- Palate: Fresh, crisp, dry; flavors are citrus-forward with flowers, minerals, and a hint of "green-fresh" (fresh herbs, lime leaf)
- Finish: Lingering and crisp, hint of green apple