



MEDIA RELEASE

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DEVIL'S LAIR SHINES AT ROYAL MELBOURNE WINE SHOW

Margaret River winery Devil's Lair has received outstanding results at the 2012 Royal Melbourne Wine Show, taking home the Rural Finance Trophy for Best Shiraz Cabernet Blend and Gold for the Devil's Lair Margaret River Hidden Cave Cabernet Shiraz 2011.

Devil's Lair also received three Gold medals for the Devil's Lair Chardonnay 2011, Devil's Lair Margaret River Hidden Cave Chardonnay 2012 and Fifth Leg Shiraz 2011.

These outstanding results across the Devil's Lair portfolio reward four years of focus and refinement from Devil's Lair Chief Winemaker, Oliver Crawford, and his team.

Crawford, says: "The Royal Melbourne Wine Show is one of Australia's most respected wine shows with an exceptional calibre of entries each year. To be recognised in such esteemed company is testament to the dedication and commitment of our entire team."

On the trophy-winning wine, Crawford said: "You'd be hard-pressed to find many examples of Margaret River Cabernet blended with Shiraz, but in trialling different blends I found that our Cabernet Sauvignon simply delivered a better wine when blended with Shiraz. The resulting wine is instantly recognisable as Margaret River in origin, with fine, elegant tannins, sweet cassis fruit and lingering spice."

"Our Devil's Lair Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon celebrate Margaret River's leading varieties, and demonstrate how the climatic differences within Margaret River vineyards impact on each variety, while The Hidden Cave wines show varietal integrity and layered texture and allow us to showcase these varieties with a twist. The recognition of Western Australian Shiraz is also a significant achievement for the region," Crawford said.

"We've come a long way in the past few years and the success of these wines this week is a great reflection on our consolidated style," Crawford said.

Devil's Lair Margaret River Hidden Cave Cabernet Shiraz 2011, RRP \$22.99

The Rural Finance Trophy for Best Shiraz Cabernet blend

Gold - 96 points

Devil's Lair Chardonnay 2011, RRP \$49.99

Gold - 96 points

Devil's Lair Margaret River Hidden Cave Chardonnay 2012, RRP \$22.99

Gold - 96 points

Fifth Leg Shiraz 2011, RRP \$17.99

Gold - 96 points

Devil's Lair wines are available in fine wine retailers and restaurants across Australia.

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OLIVER CRAWFORD – WINEMAKER

Oliver Crawford joined Devil's Lair in July 2008, bringing with him a long record of experience and success as the winemaker who shaped Penfolds Yattarna into one of Australia's finest and most textured Chardonnays.

Oliver's family entered the wine industry in 1986 by planting a vineyard near Orange in New South Wales. Over the ensuing ten years he worked on the vineyard, completed an Oenology degree through Roseworthy and undertook vintages at Rosemount Estate, initiating his affiliation with Chardonnay.

Oliver took a winemaking role in the Barossa Valley in 1998 and moved to Penfolds the following year where he made some of Australia's most famous reds. Within two years Oliver was in charge of the white winemaking team and his legacy includes pioneering a move into Tasmania in search of great fruit from cooler climates.

Whilst Margaret River is the perfect place for Australia's finest Chardonnay winemakers, Oliver is relishing the chance to once again work with great reds, especially Cabernet Sauvignon.

A long time crafting Chardonnay has imprinted an appreciation of texture and is where Oliver feels he can bring his experience to bear.

About Devil's Lair and The Hidden Cave

A combination of geology, geography and climate create wines with great clarity, delicate fruit flavours and elegant structure. Devil's Lair is celebrated for its Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon.

The winemaking team includes: Chief Winemaker Oliver Crawford, and winemakers Ben Miller and Michael Kane. Vineyard Manager Simon Robertson has been with the Estate for more than two decades.

The Devil's Lair wine labels recreate the Tasmanian tiger's image together with the mysterious fifth leg which was found amongst the remains. The Devil's Lair stable includes: Devil's Lair, Dance with the Devil and most recently, The Hidden Cave collection.

**For more information, images or interviews, please contact:
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