



For Immediate Release

Thursday 14 November 2013

Wolf Blass tops off an outstanding year being named 'International Winemaker of the Year' at the 2013 International Wine and Spirit Competition.

Leading Australian winery, Wolf Blass, has been named International Winemaker of the Year at the 2013 International Wine and Spirit Competition (IWSC) in London overnight.

This is the third time that Wolf Blass has won this highly acclaimed award, the first being 1992 followed by 2002.

The IWSC was established in 1969 and is recognised as one of the world's most prestigious and influential wine competitions with exhibitors from almost 90 countries as well as boasting the most highly qualified and trained group of international judges of any wine and spirit competition.

On top of being named International Winemaker of Year, Wolf Blass dominated the competition being awarded four trophies including:

- Australian Producer of the Year
- Best Single Vineyard Red Wine for the Wolf Blass Platinum Label 2008
- Best Single Vineyard White Wine for the Wolf Blass White Label Riesling 2001
- Best Riesling for Wolf Blass White Label Riesling 2001

Wolf Blass Chief Winemaker, Chris Hatcher says this win caps off an exceptional year for Wolf Blass on the global stage.

"Winning International Winemaker of the Year at one of the world's most respected and prestigious wine competitions is incredibly special. It is particularly pleasing to receive the highest accolade for our Single Vineyard wines – Platinum Label Shiraz 2008 from our Medlands Estate "Orchard" vineyard and White Label Riesling 2001 from Rogers Block in Eden Valley. Both outstanding expressions of regional excellence.

"This is a great reward and recognition of the dedication and hard work our winemaking and viticultural teams put into making exceptional quality wines and I am extremely proud of them.

"We treasure awards won at respected international wine competitions as they are a true, independent assessment of our wines from some of the most experienced and respected wine judges in the world."

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NOTE TO EDITORS

NOTEABLE 2013 WOLF BLASS AWARDS

- International Red Winemaker of the Year at the International Wine Challenge (London),
- Winery of the Year at Intervin in Canada
- Best New World Red Wine at the China Wine Challenge
- Australian Producer of the Year at the China Wine and Spirit Awards,
- Best Australian Wine at World Wine Awards Canada
- Best Chardonnay at the Hong Kong International Wine & Spirit Competition

ABOUT WOLF BLASS

Wolf Blass was established in the Barossa Valley in 1966 and has grown from a humble tin shed to become one of the world's most successful and awarded wine brands. A recipient of more than 3,000 medals and trophies at national and international wine shows, the essence of Wolf Blass wines is exemplified through the passion of its custodians past and present as they continuously strive to produce wines of quality, character and consistency.

ABOUT CHRIS HATCHER

Chris Hatcher is widely considered one of Australia's leading winemakers and respected wine show judges. His attention to detail in the winery and the tasting room has helped to produce the quality, consistency and character that built the reputation of Wolf Blass Wines. In 1996, when Wolf Blass Wines had grown into Mildara Blass and a new chief winemaker was needed, it was a given that 'Hatch' would be the best person for the job. After all, he'd already set the standard and shown the leadership qualities that would continue to push the winemaking boundaries at Wolf Blass. Following his appointment as Chief Winemaker, he quickly set about improving the overall quality of the Wolf Blass wines. Known for his attention to detail, Chris' impact on Wolf Blass is evident in every winemaker working for him today.

ABOUT IWSC

The International Wine and Spirit Competition was founded in 1969 and is the premier competition of its kind in the world. Its aim is to promote the quality and excellence of the world's best wines, spirits and liqueurs.

All entries are first, blind tasted in groups divided by variety, region and vintage as necessary, by professional expert judges (by glass, not bottle) and then the top products are sent for detailed (chemical and microbiological) analysis. This analysis is crucial as in some instances the results of this analysis may lead to marks being deducted or even outright rejection.

To ensure perfect conditions, the IWSC premises include bespoke cellars and three dedicated tasting rooms. Awards are made on a points system and sponsored trophies are presented in selected categories.