

EMBARGOED UNTIL 2:00pm, THURSDAY 1 MAY, 2014

LANGTON'S UNVEILS AUSTRALIA'S FINEST WINES

The 6th edition of the internationally regarded Langton's Classification identifies the best of Australian fine wines

Thursday, 1 May 2014: Langton's, Australia's leading online fine wine marketplace, is putting the nation's finest wines on display with the launch of its sixth Classification today.

The Langton's Classification has been updated to feature a record number (139) of Australia's best performing and most prized wines on its latest 'honour roll'. Of these, 21 are in the highly sought after 'Exceptional' category.

Tamara Grischy, Langton's Head of Auctions, said; "We're delighted that our biggest and best Classification is being released at a time when the Australian fine wine market is experiencing exponential growth.

"The first Classification in 1990 featured just 34 wines and was designed to create interest and build demand in the fledgling Australian wine scene.

"Fast-forward 25 years and the Langton's Classification has become an Australian institution. Its development over the years highlights the evolution of, and global demand for, the nation's dynamic and progressive ultra-fine wine scene."

Relevant to both wine connoisseurs and novices alike, the Langton's Classification is respected globally. It is the barometer of Australian fine wine and has propelled wines such as Crawford River Riesling and Main Ridge Half Acre Pinot Noir onto the global stage.

Shining a light on the world-renowned Australian wine scene, the most anticipated part of the Classification's release is its call out of the Australian wines to watch and varietals to take note of.

"As the biggest seller of Penfolds in Australia and abroad it comes as no surprise that its Grange Shiraz has once again taken the top position. However, the Langton's Classification has unearthed some new and different styles which are making their mark on the fine wine world," Grischy says.

"Our winemakers have driven the transformation of Australian Chardonnay, from bold and oaky to refined and elegant. The demand for this style is clear to see, with a number of Chardonnay wines being recognised.

"The emergence of local wine styles shows that Australian wine makers are being inspired by the past, with Sparkling Shiraz making its way back onto the Langton's Classification. The popularity of that successful red-wine marriage, Grenache-Shiraz, is also clear to see. The number included in the Classification has doubled since 2010."

Grischy also says that while Australia's classic wine regions are recognised, it is exciting to see Victoria's Rutherglen region emerging as the unchallenged capital of fortified wines.

Langton's wines are ranked as Exceptional, Outstanding and Excellent based on the trading habits of consumers. This year, for the first time ever, no wines have been deleted, which is a testament to the Australian fine wine scene.

An online auction of all Exceptional, Outstanding and Excellent wines will launch on May 15. Langton's is also taking the Classification around the country. Join the team for a unique opportunity to taste, compare and contrast over 100 of the Australia's finest wines in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth this May and June.

For information on this, to view the full Classification VI and to find unique wines through Langton's brokerage, auctions or direct sales services, visit www.langtons.com.au.

To speak with a Langton's expert, please contact One Green Bean:
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About Langton's:

From its humble beginnings as a specialist wine auction house in Melbourne over 25 years ago, Langton's has expanded its services to cater to the growth of the Australian fine wine market and demand from customers to obtain the best local fine wines. Alongside the prestigious Classification, Langton's embraces a comprehensive online wine business spanning auction, online sales and brokerage. To celebrate its position as Australia's leading fine wine marketplace, Langton's has relaunched its website: Langtons.com.au. View and purchase from thousands of hand-selected local and international wines from the best producers. A Langton's wine broker makes buying easy if you're short on time, or could do with some inside knowledge. They have access to hundreds of cellar doors and can track down wine for you, access exclusive offers, or bid at auction on your behalf.