



McLAREN VALE



LATITUDE

35° 19'S

GROWING SEASON RAINFALL

226mm

LONGITUDE

138° 32'E

MEAN TEMPERATURE

21.4°C

TOTAL VINEYARD AREA

7,438ha

ALTITUDE: LOW

0–350m

Home to some of the world's oldest grape vines, McLaren Vale is known for being one of the most progressive and environmentally sustainable wine regions in Australia.

MEDITERRANEAN CLIMATE

- Warm summers
- Mild winters
- Winter-dominated rainfall
- Cooling effect from ocean and ranges creates substantial meso-climate and micro-climate variation

SOIL

One of the most geologically diverse regions in the world with more than 40 unique geologies ranging from 15,000 to 550+ million years old. The region has a complex patchwork of 19 different soil types including:

- Red-brown sandy loams
- Grey-brown loamy sands
- Distinctly sandy soils
- Patches of red or black friable loams
- Yellow clay subsoils interspersed with lime

SUSTAINABILITY

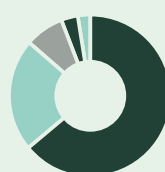
McLaren Vale has the highest number of certified organic and biodynamic vineyards in Australia, and one of the lowest usage rates of sprays and agro-chemicals. Growers are also increasingly planting more climate-appropriate varieties.

WORLD-LEADING WATER MANAGEMENT

Supplementary irrigation is considered essential for many vineyards due to low summer rainfall. Impressively all irrigation comes from sustainable resources, taking significant pressure off the natural groundwater. Key sources include groundwater aquifers, where water is collected and stored from natural run-off, and treated reclaimed water that is piped to the region from nearby water-treatment plants.

NOTEWORTHY VARIETIES

The first grapes are believed to have been planted in 1838, and some still-producing vines carry more than 100 years of heritage. In recent years, the focus has shifted from big, powerful styles to showcasing varietal characters and influences of terroir. Around 90% of grapes grown are red varieties, however all manner of vines thrive and experimentation with emerging and re-emerging varieties is one of the most exciting parts of McLaren Vale today.



1. **Shiraz** (57%)
2. **Cabernet Sauvignon** (20%)
3. **Grenache** (7%)
4. **Chardonnay** (3%)
5. **Mataro/Mourvèdre** (2%)

PLUS major focus on alternative varieties including **Tempranillo**, **Fiano**, **Sangiovese**, **Nero d'Avola** and **Vermantino**.

