

Queensland Chardonnay takes top award at Cairns Show Wine Awards

It's almost ironic that a wine named "Inland Way Chardonnay" took out a Gold Medal along with two prestigious trophies at the recent Cairns Wine Show, on the Northern most tip of the Great Inland Way highway.

Queensland vineyard Riversands, in St George, competed against more than 850 other wines to take out trophies for "Best Queensland White" and "Best Chardonnay in Show."



Andrew Corrigan, Chair of the Wine Awards paints the picture of the winning wine: "The Riversands Inland Way Chardonnay had great palate length and texture with complex aromas and almost a 'European' style aroma."

"It's quite a serious and complex style of Chardonnay in comparison to many unwooded, simpler style Chardonnays" he continued.

Marketing Manager Dana Gluzde describes the dual trophy winning Inland Way Chardonnay. "It's a complex flavoured wine but also a very approachable one. It's one everyone will enjoy, with enough complexity to keep the connoisseurs on the ball. "

"Minimal oaking enhances the wine without dominating the classical chardonnay flavours. Think – white peaches, citrus and flinty stone – now all you need is a balmy evening outdoors with fresh antipasto!"

Connecting tropical Cairns with Sydney is the Great Inland Way, which passes through idyllic St George in South Western Queensland. It's here where the Chardonnay grapes ripen along the sandy loam banks of the Balonne River.

"Once picked, grapes are transported to our contract winemaker, Dylan Rhymer at Ballandean Estate. Approximately 25% of the Chardonnay undergoes full barrel fermentation in French oak. We stir the lees once a month so we build enough complexity without overpowering with oak," explains Dana

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