



## 2021 James Halliday Australian Chardonnay & Cabernet Challenge Awards Announcement

MEDIA RELEASE

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The 2021 James Halliday Australian Chardonnay and Cabernet Challenge Trophy winners will be unveiled on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

Following the success of last year's collaboration between the Margaret River Wine Association (MRWA), Coonawarra Vignerons (CV) and Wine Yarra Valley (WYV) in the management of the Cabernet Challenge, the MRWA - WYV partnership has strengthened further.

This year, the James Halliday Australian Chardonnay and Cabernet Challenges were 'blended' and judged simultaneously from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> November in the Yarra Valley for the first time.

James Halliday supported the decision to bring the Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon Challenges together, saying it *"provides a win-win scenario for all the stakeholders. The results will provide a unique snapshot of the state of play of these two great varieties."*

The awards will be announced via a livestream on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm AWST / 7.30pm ACST / 8pm AEST, hosted by wine writer, Nick Ryan.

The Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon Regional Winners, from regions with scores of 95 points or more, will be announced prior to the highest pointed Chardonnay and the highest pointed Cabernet Sauvignon being awarded with the 2021 James Halliday Australian Challenge Trophy.

### **Announcement Details:**

Date: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December

Time: 5pm AWST / 7.30pm ACST / 8pm AEST

Event registration: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1115479842594833>

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### **Social Media Tile:**

Click [here](#)

### **Link to Live Stream:**

Click [here](#)

### **Judging Images:**

Click [here](#)

### **For further information contact:**

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## Previous Trophy Winners:

### James Halliday Australian Chardonnay Challenge

2012: Penfolds Yattarna Chardonnay 2008, Tasmania  
2013: Seppelt Drumborg Chardonnay 2011, Grampians, Victoria  
2014: Deep Woods Estate Reserve Chardonnay 2013, Margaret River  
2015: Silkman Reserve Chardonnay 2014, Hunter Valley  
2016: Penfolds Bin A Chardonnay 2015, Adelaide Hills  
2017: Amelia Park Reserve Chardonnay 2016, Margaret River  
2018: A. Rodda Wines Willow Lake Vineyard Chardonnay 2017, Yarra Valley  
2019: Oakridge 864 Funder and Diamond Chardonnay 2017, Yarra Valley  
2020: no challenge held

### James Halliday Australian Cabernet Challenge

2016: McWilliam's Single Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon 2014, Hilltops  
2017: Mandon Estate Research Station Reserve Cabernet 2014, Margaret River  
2018: Nocturne Cabernet Sauvignon 2017, Margaret River  
2019: Ringbolt Cabernet Sauvignon 2018, Margaret River  
2020: Xanadu Cabernet Sauvignon 2018, Margaret River

All previous results available at:

<https://australianwinechallenge.com.au/>

The judges for the 2021 James Halliday Australian Chardonnay & Cabernet Challenge were:

Mark O'Callahan	Natalie Cleghorn
Philip Rich	Kayleen Reynolds
Sarah Crowe	Mavis Zang
Ben Mullen	Justin Purser
Tim Perrin	

The James Halliday Australian Chardonnay and Cabernet Challenge is a celebration of the world's most popular two varieties and Australia's outstanding regional diversity.

Born in the Yarra Valley in 2012, the James Halliday Australian Chardonnay Challenge celebrates all chardonnays in its quest to find the nation's best. Chardonnay is Australia's most planted white variety and the continuing evolution of its style by Australian makers is heralded globally.

The James Halliday Australian Cabernet Challenge was launched in 2016. As the world's most widely planted vine and Australia's third most planted variety, Cabernet Sauvignon is one of Australian wine's great success stories.

Margaret River Wine Association and Wine Yarra Valley will collaborate and jointly host the Chardonnay and Cabernet Challenges. They will be judged in the Yarra Valley in 2021 and then will move between the two iconic regions on alternate years.

**Margaret River Wine and Wine Yarra Valley** are the official and peak wine industry bodies in their respective regions. While each is passionate about their own area, they are thrilled to have the opportunity to work with another Australian fine wine region.

