
Peter Leske



Peter Leske graduated from Roseworthy in 1983 with a degree in Oenology. He has since held a wide variety of wine production and management positions in Australia and overseas: notably with Jeffrey Grosset in the Clare Valley, prestigious French Domaines Dujac, Alain Graillot and l’Arlot, and California’s E&J Gallo.

Between winemaking roles, Peter spent five years as Manager of the Technical Services Group at The Australian Wine Research Institute, providing technical assistance and advice to winemakers across the country.

The decade from 1997–2006 was spent as Chief Winemaker at Nepenthe in the Adelaide Hills, where he and a small team built the winery, and made the wines which established the company’s excellent international reputation. He left Nepenthe to assist the South Australian Wine Industry Association with environmental issues such as drought and climate change... the sorts of thing one can readily fix in an afternoon...

In 2007, largely to silence all those who kept asking when he would do ‘it’, he launched his own wine label: *La Linea*; a partnership with mates and marketing and distribution gurus David LeMire and Jason Quin. Using vineyards in the Adelaide Hills well known to Peter, the three adventurers specialise in innovative wine styles including food-friendly Tempranillo (as both dry rosé and dry red), and off-dry Riesling (the latter under the name *Vertigo*). It is early days, but all three are delighted that the wines have been very enthusiastically received by press, trade and consumers alike.

However, Peter’s current principal activity is making wine for a range of super-premium producers in McLaren Vale, the Adelaide Hills and the Clare Valley.

He has a problem saying ‘no’, and has therefore served on too many committees, spoken at a similar number of conferences and seminars, and provided tasting, strategic planning, and technical advice to organisations as diverse as The Australian Society for Viticulture and Oenology, The Institute of the Masters of Wine, The Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation, and the Winemakers’ Federation of Australia. He has also contributed many articles for trade and technical journals, and recently led the writing of the *Sensory Evaluation* chapter for the forthcoming Australian winemaking textbook.

Peter completed an MBA in 1988, but describes his greatest challenge and achievement as sharing in the parenting of two beautiful daughters. And they aren’t even teenagers yet...

Winemaking. Wine tasting and assessment. Writing. Wine education. Technical consultation.

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