



MOUNT PLEASANT  
HUNTER VALLEY

# JEWEL OF THE HUNTER



1921

Established by the legendary winemaker Maurice O'Shea, one of the founding fathers of the modern Australian wine industry.

1932

McWilliam's purchased Mount Pleasant and kept O'Shea on as winemaker for the rest of his life.

2021

Mount Pleasant celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> year as new owners, the Medich Family, invest as the new custodians ensuring a bright future ahead.



MOUNT PLEASANT  
HUNTER VALLEY



**Maurice O'Shea**  
**A LEGACY OF  
EXCELLENCE**



It was by the light of a gas lamp in 1921 that the story of Mount Pleasant was born. In this year the legendary Hunter Valley winemaker Maurice O'Shea, one of the founding fathers of the modern Australian wine industry, bought a small parcel of land in the Parish of Pokolbin in the Hunter Valley.



The son of an Irish-born wine merchant and a French mother, O'Shea quickly brought Mount Pleasant to life, equipped with only basic tools and an old basket press.



On this site he set about crafting wines of a quality never before seen in the country, establishing his credentials as a winemaker with an uncanny ability to pick quality and longevity in table wines. His blending techniques and sophisticated use of oak- talents he brought home from his studies of oenology at France's Montpellier University- helped produce table wines of enormous flavour and intensity.



But as well as his impressive winemaking skills, Maurice O'Shea had a talent for identifying sites that would create flavoursome and expressive wines, including Old Paddock (1921), Rosehill (1946) and Lovedale (1939).



His pursuit of perfection and his spirit of innovation helped turn the Hunter Valley into a centre of the emerging wine culture. To this day, the people of Mount Pleasant work the same vineyards as O'Shea.





# A HISTORY OF EXCELLENCE



Mount Pleasant is recognised for producing classic Hunter Semillon and Shiraz wine styles.



Consistent wine writer endorsement. Key Wine media rate Lovedale Semillon, OP & OH Shiraz, Rosehill Shiraz and Maurice O'Shea Shiraz as being amongst the great wines of the world.



Mount Pleasant's award-winning history dates back to its early beginnings, a tradition of success which continues today.



The winery is one of the most awarded in Australia, with an incredible five championships, 128 trophies and 2100 medals since the late 1970s.

# HALLIDAY 2017 WINERY OF THE YEAR



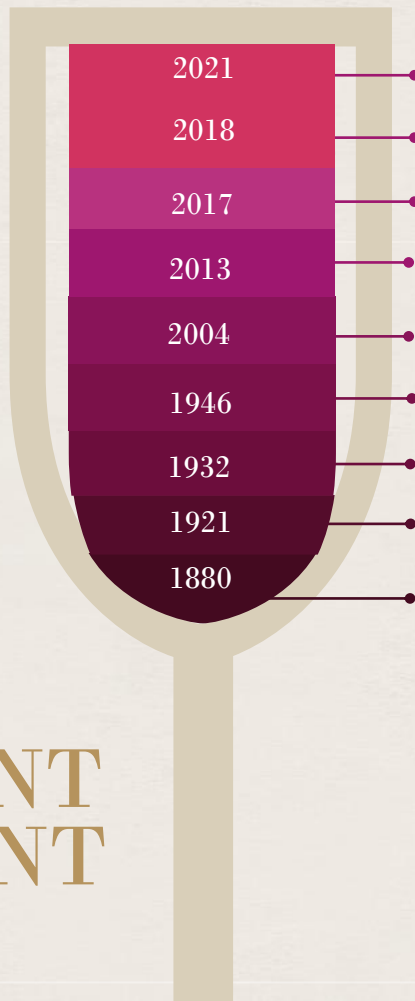
Named Winery of Year – out of 2,800 Wineries; Mount Pleasant, was honoured with:

- Seven Shirazes scoring between 97 and 99 points.
- Supported by three Semillons scoring more than 95 points.
- Including the **2009 Lovedale Semillon** receiving 98 points & '**Semillon of the Year**'.
- Mount Pleasant is only the 2<sup>nd</sup> Hunter Valley Winery to receive this award (Tyrell's 2010).





# A TALE OF MOUNT PLEASANT



2021 The Medich family become the new custodians of Mount Pleasant. Maurice O'Shea Shiraz 2018 rated 99 points by Halliday's Wine Companion. Mount Pleasant awarded as a Top 10 Winery by The Real Review.

2018 Adrian Sparks is appointed Chief Winemaker. Adrian becomes only the fifth Chief Winemaker to be based at Mount Pleasant..

2017 Mount Pleasant wins Halliday Winery of the Year and Maurice O'Shea Shiraz attains 99 points.

2013 Jim Chatto is appointed Chief Winemaker.

2004 The 2000 vintage of Mount Pleasant Maurice O'Shea Shiraz outscores Penfolds Grange and Henschke Hill of Grace to be the highest rated Shiraz in the 2005 edition of James Halliday's Australian Wine Companion.

1946 Maurice O'Shea plants the Lovedale and Rosehill vineyards.

1932 The McWilliam family, already famous for their fortified wines, purchase a half share of Mount Pleasant Estate and encourage Maurice O'Shea to continue with his winemaking.

1921 Maurice O'Shea persuades his widowed mother Leontine to purchase the King family's 16.3ha Hunter Valley property and two adjoining parcels of land, on which the Old Paddock Vineyard is planted. O'Shea names the property Mount Pleasant.

1880 English immigrant Charles King plants the Old Hill Vineyard on rich volcanic soil in the Parish of Pokolbin, at the Southern end of the Hunter Valley.

# MEET ADRIAN SPARKS



Only the fifth Chief Winemaker at Mount Pleasant since the legendary Maurice O'Shea.



Talented Winemaker with over 25 years of winemaking excellence.



Represented Mount Pleasant at the Len Evans tutorial in 2017.



Regular judge at:

- Halliday Chardonnay Challenge
- Australian National Wine Show
- Brisbane Wine Show and many others.



Wines developed by Adrian have won numerous trophies, medals & commendations including NSW Wine of the Year in 2013, 2018 & 2019 and Hunter Valley Red Wine of the Year 2018 & 2019.



2019 Hunter Valley Winemaker of the Year. 5 trophies achieved in 2019 for Rosehill Shiraz, O'Shea Shiraz Trophy, Mt Henry Shiraz Pinot Trophy, Mountain D Trophy





**WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

1. Swan District
2. Perth Hills
3. Peel
4. Geographe
5. Margaret River
6. Blackwood Valley
7. Pemberton
8. Manjimup
9. Great Southern

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

10. Southern Flinders Ranges
11. Clare Valley
12. Barossa Valley
13. Eden Valley
14. Riverland
15. Adelaide Plains
16. Adelaide Hills
17. McLaren Vale
18. Kangaroo Island
19. Southern Fleurieu
20. Currency Creek
21. Langhorne Creek
22. Padthaway
23. Mount Benson
24. Wrattenbully
25. Robe
26. Coonawarra
27. Mount Gambier

**QUEENSLAND**

28. South Burnett
29. Granite Belt

**NEW SOUTH WALES**

30. New England Australia
31. Hastings River
32. Hunter
33. Mudgee
34. Orange
35. Cowra
36. Riverina
37. Hilltops
38. Southern Highlands
39. Gundagai
40. Canberra District
41. Shoalhaven Coast
42. Tumbarumba
43. Perricoota

**VICTORIA**

44. Murray Darling
45. Swan Hill
46. Goulburn Valley
47. Rutherglen
48. Glenrowan
49. Beechworth
50. King Valley
51. Alpine Valleys
52. Strathbogies Ranges
53. Upper Goulburn
54. Heathcote
55. Bendigo
56. Pyrenees
57. Macedon Ranges
58. Sunbury
59. Grampians
60. Henty
61. Geelong
62. Yarra Valley
63. Mornington Peninsula
64. Gippsland

**TASMANIA**

65. Tasmania

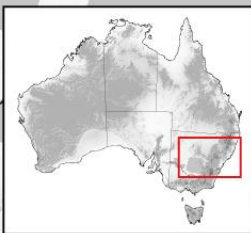


# Hunter Valley

**NEW SOUTH WALES**



**SYDNEY**



**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**AUSTRALIAN WINE DISCOVERED**

# OUR VINEYARDS

The old saying goes that “great wines start in the vineyard, and nowhere is that truer than Mount Pleasant, where we have the privilege of working with some truly exceptional blocks.

From Old Hill, planted 1880 by Charles King, to the celebrated Lovedale vineyard, planted by Maurice O’Shea, each of our sites create unique and personal wines that are part of the fabric of the Mount Pleasant story.

And while the vineyards of Mount Pleasant are part and parcel of our winery’s tradition, they also speak to the history of the birth of the Hunter Valley as a wine region and the greater story of Australian wine.

📍 OLD HILL | OLD PADDOCK | ROSEHILL | LOVEDALE

planted 1880

# OLD HILL VINEYARD

English immigrant Charles King planted the Old Hill Vineyard on rich, volcanic soils in Pokolbin in 1880. The particular volcanic structure found on the Old Hill, formed over millions of years, can only be found in a small number of patches in the Hunter Valley. These sites create distinctive, earthy reds with the structure and fruit intensity to last decades.



# OLD HILL VINEYARD



**LOCATION:**  
Pokolbin, Lower Hunter  
Valley, NSW



**SIZE:**  
3.11ha



**VARIETIES:**  
Shiraz



**VINE ORIENTATION:**  
North-South



**VINES PER HECTARE:**  
1790



**ROW SPACING:**  
3.6m



**SOIL TYPE:**  
Red and yellow Podzolic  
over medium clays



**VINE SPACING:**  
1.5m



**TRELLISING:**  
Vertical Shoot  
Positioning



**IRRIGATION:**  
Drip irrigation



**HARVEST:**  
February; entirely  
handpicked



**ELEVATION:**  
130-165m

planted 1921

# OLD PADDOCK VINEYARD

When Maurice O'Shea purchased Mount Pleasant in 1921, he extended the land holding with the purchase of two adjoining parcels of land- it is here that Old Paddock is planted. The deep red volcanic loams have allowed the vines over more than 90 years to penetrate and bury their roots deep into the underlying bedrock, providing them with nourishment, resilience and protection.



MOUNT PLEASANT  
HUNTER VALLEY

# OLD PADDOCK VINEYARD



**LOCATION:**  
Pokolbin, Lower Hunter  
Valley, NSW



**SIZE:**  
0.74ha



**VARIETIES:**  
Shiraz



**VINE ORIENTATION:**  
Mainly East-West



**VINES PER HECTARE:**  
1790



**ROW SPACING:**  
3.6m



**SOIL TYPE:**  
Red and yellow Podzolic  
over medium clays



**VINE SPACING:**  
1.5m



**TRELLISING:**  
Vertical Shoot Positioning



**IRRIGATION:**  
Drip irrigation



**HARVEST:**  
February; entirely  
handpicked



**ELEVATION:**  
137-146m

planted 1946

# ROSEHILL VINEYARD

Regarded as one of the elite vineyards of the Hunter Valley, Maurice O'Shea negotiated to purchase the Rosehill land from Emily Dunn during the Second World War, in March 1945. He was looking for a similar site to that of Mount Pleasant and what he found was 22 hectares of rich, volcanic loam soil. O'Shea renamed the property the Rosehill Vineyard and the area was planted to Shiraz. In 1967, a further 22 hectares were purchased beside the original vineyard, and this also was planted to Shiraz. Unlike the original planting, which was planted with 15' row spacing, the rows were more closely spaced due to the improvement in trellis design and cultivating implements, resulting in greater bearing potential.



MOUNT PLEASANT  
HUNTER VALLEY



# ROSEHILL VINEYARD

 <b>LOCATION:</b> Pokolbin, Lower Hunter Valley, NSW	 <b>SIZE:</b> 27ha	 <b>VARIETIES:</b> Shiraz	 <b>VINE ORIENTATION:</b> Mainly East-West; some areas are planted North-South to the contours of the land to allow good sunlight
 <b>VINES PER HECTARE:</b> 2000	 <b>ROW SPACING:</b> 3.35m	 <b>SOIL TYPE:</b> Rich volcanic loam	 <b>VINE SPACING:</b> 1.5m
 <b>TRELLISING:</b> Vertical Shoot Positioning and Cordon Ballerina, ensuring excellent sunlight capture	 <b>IRRIGATION:</b> Drip irrigation	 <b>HARVEST:</b> February; Old Vines and small parcels handpicked at night	 <b>ELEVATION:</b> 60-100m

planted 1946

# LOVEDALE VINEYARD

The site of the Lovedale Vineyard was selected in 1939 by the late Maurice O'Shea. The vineyard was planted after World War II, in 1946, and the first Mount Pleasant Lovedale Semillon was made in 1950. It is only when you consider the simple aesthetics of the Lovedale Vineyard and the realities of the Hunter Valley climate, that you can truly appreciate what a visionary Maurice O'Shea was; to see beyond the adversity, plant a vineyard and create a wine some consider as Australia's greatest white wine. The vineyard is named after the original landholders, the Love family.



# OUR WINES

## *Mount Pleasant Ranges*

### ICON



The Mount Pleasant Flagship range are benchmark wines originating from the Hunter Valley, including our Lovedale Semillon and Maurice O'Shea Shiraz.

### HERITAGE



The Heritage collection showcases the history of Mount Pleasant's special sites and the amazing wines including Old Paddock & Old Hill Shiraz and Rosehill Shiraz.

### MOUNTAIN



The Mountain Range wines pay homage to Maurice O'Shea's talent as a master blender. These are style wines calling out the body be it: light, medium or full; rather than the variety.

### FAMILY



The Family Range focuses on the unique personality of each of our vineyards at Mount Pleasant. Amazing quality at affordable prices.

# A HUNTER VALLEY ICON



It was with a firm belief in regional definition, single vineyard wines & a thorough understanding of the Hunter Valley landscape that O’Shea planted the famed Lovedale Vineyard in 1946.

Since 1950, Lovedale has stood as a quintessential expression of its origin and is today widely regarded as one of Australia’s benchmark Semillons.



Located on flat unremarkable landscape – adjacent to an old wartime airstrip – in the Lower Hunter Valley; Locals used to say the sand soils are so poor here that “rabbits needed to bring along a lunch box to survive”. These lean acidic soils are elemental to the long-lived, fine-boned Lovedale Semillons, first made in 1950.

Lovedale is a classic wine with a reputation for long term aging. Regarded by many collectors, wine show judges and critics as the archetypal Hunter Valley Semillon – which set the standard by which all Hunter Semillon’s are compared.



# HALLIDAY WINE COMPANION 2021 HIGHLIGHTS



Halliday  
WINE COMPANION



PROUD TO BE A  
TOP 5 RED STAR WINERY  
IN THE 2021 HALLIDAY  
WINE COMPANION



**2018 Maurice O'Shea Shiraz**  
*Top 100 Wines of 2020*

An utterly stupendous wine, in the same league as Penfolds 1962 Bin 60A. This O'Shea has the complexity of a great tapestry woven centuries ago when time was of no consequence. The sky, the soil and the fruit coalesce into an entity that throbs with intensity and a never-ending kaleidoscope of blackberry, earth and leather flavours.

2017 Maurice O'Shea Shiraz – 98pts  
2014 Maurice O'Shea Shiraz – 99pts



**2013 Lovedale Semillon**

As if by alchemy, with age Semillon slips into a toasty, butter brioche, lime-marmalade and waxy realm without its acidity wavering. This certainly has freshness and plenty of years ahead of it, but that magical 5-years-before-release-date includes all the other complex stuff.

2011 Lovedale Semillon – 97pts  
2010 Lovedale Semillon – 97pts  
2007 Lovedale Semillon – 98pts & Semillon of the Year



**2018 "Block" 1946 Vines Shiraz**

A quite extraordinary release. It's dense with red-berried fruit but also with earth and spice. There are minor signs of oak, but this wine is all about fruit and place. It's the Hunter Valley distilled into a red wine. It's floral, its flavours are spread wide and long, it feels captivating from start to finish.

2017 "Block" 1946 Vines Shiraz– 96pts  
2014 "Block" 1946 Vines Shiraz– 97pts  
2013 "Block" 1946 Vines Shiraz– 98pts



# *James Halliday's Wine Companion 2021*

## **'FULL LIST' RESULTS**

### **Mount Pleasant Flagship Wines**

2018 Mount Pleasant Maurice O'Shea Shiraz – 99 Points; *Top 100 wines of 2020*

2013 Mount Pleasant Lovedale Semillon – 96 Points;

### **Mount Pleasant Block Range Wines**

2018 Mount Pleasant 1965 Vines Rosehill Vineyard Shiraz – 98 Points; *Best of the Best*

2018 Mount Pleasant 1946 Vines Rosehill Vineyard Shiraz – 98 Points ; *Best of the Best*

2018 Mount Pleasant 1921 Vines Old Paddock Vineyard Shiraz – 96 Points

2018 Mount Pleasant 1880 Vines Old Hill Vineyard Shiraz – 97 Points

2019 Mount Pleasant 1946 Vines Lovedale Vineyard Semillon – 93 Points

# *James Halliday's Wine Companion 2021*

## **'FULL LIST' RESULTS**

### **Mount Pleasant Mountain Range Wines**

2018 Mount Pleasant (Mountain C.) Light Bodied Dry red – 97 Points ; *Best of the Best*

2018 Mount Pleasant (Mountain A.) Medium Bodied Dry red – 96 Points

2018 Mount Pleasant (Mountain D.) Full Bodied Dry red – 97 Points ; *Best of the Best*

### **Mount Pleasant Heritage Collection Wines**

2018 Mount Pleasant Rosehill Shiraz – 96 Points

2018 Mount Pleasant OP&OH Shiraz – 96 Points

### **Mount Pleasant Legacy Collection Wines**

2017 Mount Pleasant Mothervine Pinot Noir – 95 Points

2018 Mount Pleasant Mount Henry Shiraz Pinot Noir – 95 Points