

THE
STORY
WINES

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Australian wines of distinction



Winemaker Rory Lane

Rory started making wine with no family background in the industry, and a questionably vocational degree in ancient Greek tragedy, comparative literature and politics. In wine he discovered the sciences, and found he actually enjoyed it! From there, the wine bug caught hold, and this rest is his-Story.

Philosophy

Our winemaking emphasises acidity and freshness, attempting to achieve moderate alcohol and bright aromas. Grapes are handled minimally, fermented with ambient yeasts and made with as few additions as possible — usually just sulphur dioxide. Reds are typically bottled without any fining or filtration. Simple, hands-off winemaking.

The Story Wines

Since 2004 Rory Lane has been crafting elegant and intriguing wines from a collection of Victoria's best vineyards. With a passion for the historic Grampians region of Western Victoria, each vintage he creates new expressions of Rhône varieties, along with the region's iconic old vine Shiraz. The Story leases vineyards and grows grapes organically, and also purchases grapes under long-term contracts from some of the region's premier sites.

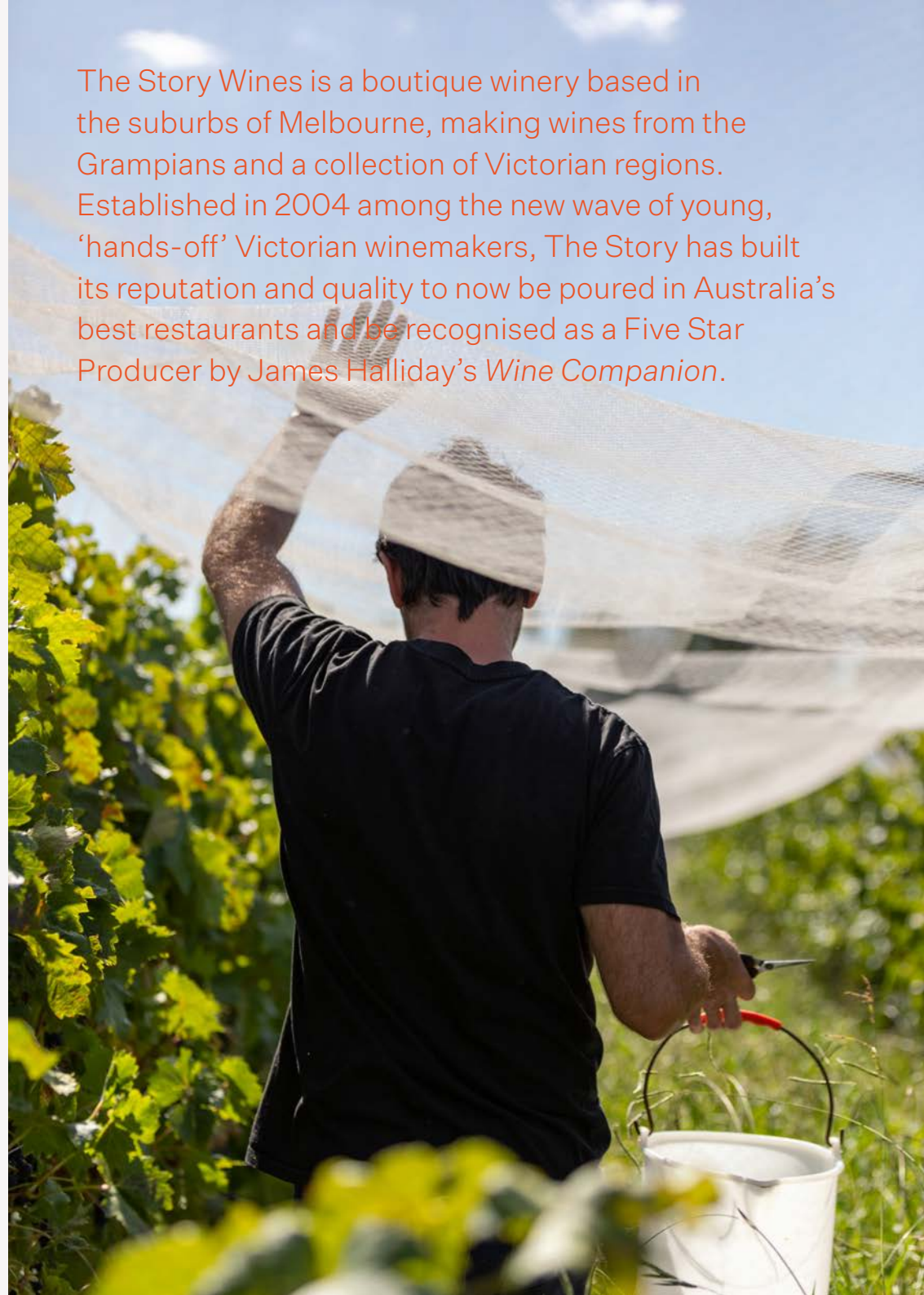
R. Lane Vintners

In 2014, it was clear that the Westgate Vineyard Syrah was something special, most likely the best wine Rory had made, and so the decision was made to create an eponymous label to reflect the quality of these wines. The R. Lane Vintners wines are only made in the best years, when quality reaches certain heights and the wines are truly special.

The Story Gin

Gin, perhaps more immediately than wine, reflects the origin of its ingredients. We aimed to create something that tasted distinctly local – transporting the drinker to the aromas of the Australian bush.

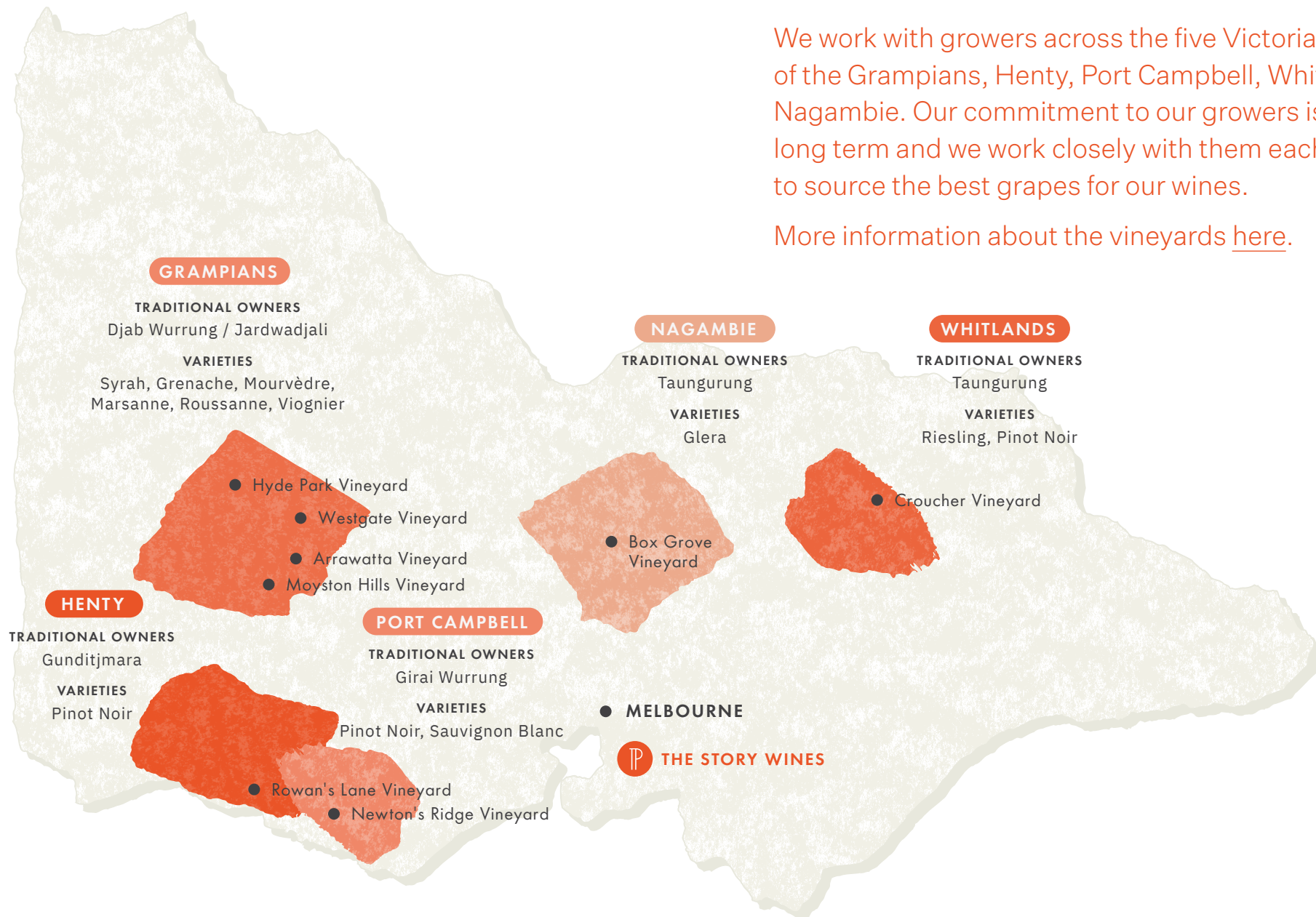
The Story Wines is a boutique winery based in the suburbs of Melbourne, making wines from the Grampians and a collection of Victorian regions. Established in 2004 among the new wave of young, 'hands-off' Victorian winemakers, The Story has built its reputation and quality to now be poured in Australia's best restaurants and be recognised as a Five Star Producer by James Halliday's *Wine Companion*.



Vineyards

We work with growers across the five Victorian regions of the Grampians, Henty, Port Campbell, Whitlands and Nagambie. Our commitment to our growers is for the long term and we work closely with them each season to source the best grapes for our wines.

More information about the vineyards [here](#).



The Story Wines





2021 Whitlands Riesling

From the 35yr old Coucher Vineyard in Whitlands, one of the highest in the state at 800m ASL, our Riesling is crafted to reflect the season. 2021 was a welcome cooler season with a clear finish. We fermented in a higher percentage of oak (1000lt foudre) chasing texture and softness to counter the everpresent acidity this site delivers. A compact, complete yet tense rendition, with some generous tropical fruit woven driven by intense natural acidity.

- 12% ABV
- 6g/Lt RS



2021 Grampians Syrah

The wine that started the brand, back in 2004. Each year there is a new story and each year our label changes to tell that story. 2021 was a cool year, a Covid year, and a turbulent one. Healthy crop levels caused some nervousness but the late season was kind and rain stayed away enabling full ripeness, gorgeous natural acidities and complete tannin structures. A wonderful year. This wine is always a combination of our sites, 82% Westgate and 18% Moyston Hills. Firm yet light on its feet, mineral and medium weight.

- 13.5% ABV
- Vegan
- Average vine age 40+ years





2021 Grampians Grenache

This comes from one of the very few Grenache vineyards in the region and shows the prettier side of the variety. Winemaking was simple: all destemmed, a natural, three week fermentation on skins then maturation in 1000L old oak vats and 500L old puncheons for seven months. It is light, pure and delicious, yet deeply fruited. Grampians Pinot, if you like. We are convinced that Grenache can do very well on the right site in the Grampians, and should ripen to perfection in the long, cool season.

- 14% ABV
- Vegan



**2018 Westgate Vineyard
Marsanne Roussanne Viognier**

Grown at Westgate Vineyard, site of some of our best Shiraz grapes, all varieties were picked together to create a field blend. Fermented with wild yeasts in very old French oak, the wine completed malolactic fermentation, which I think makes the wine more vinous, delicate and less fruity. It is held on gross lees for a full 11 months, and is neither cold stabilised nor fined in any way. Mid weight, with a gentle grip to close, it's a wine with expressive aromatics, driving acid and wonderful texture.

- 13% ABV
- Vegan





2021 Moyston Hills Vineyard Syrah

We first worked with Moyston Hills Vineyard in our debut vintage of 2004 and are proud to now be leasing and managing the site. It's a cooler, more southerly vineyard planted in 1999 on red (Cambrian) and quartz soils. This is the first site that we have leased and farmed ourselves and we are aiming to keep the organic practices that the Robinsons established. The 2021 is our first single vineyard release from this site, a mid-weight, peppery Syrah with dark, concentrated berry flavours and spice.

- 14% ABV
- Vegan



R. Lane Vintners

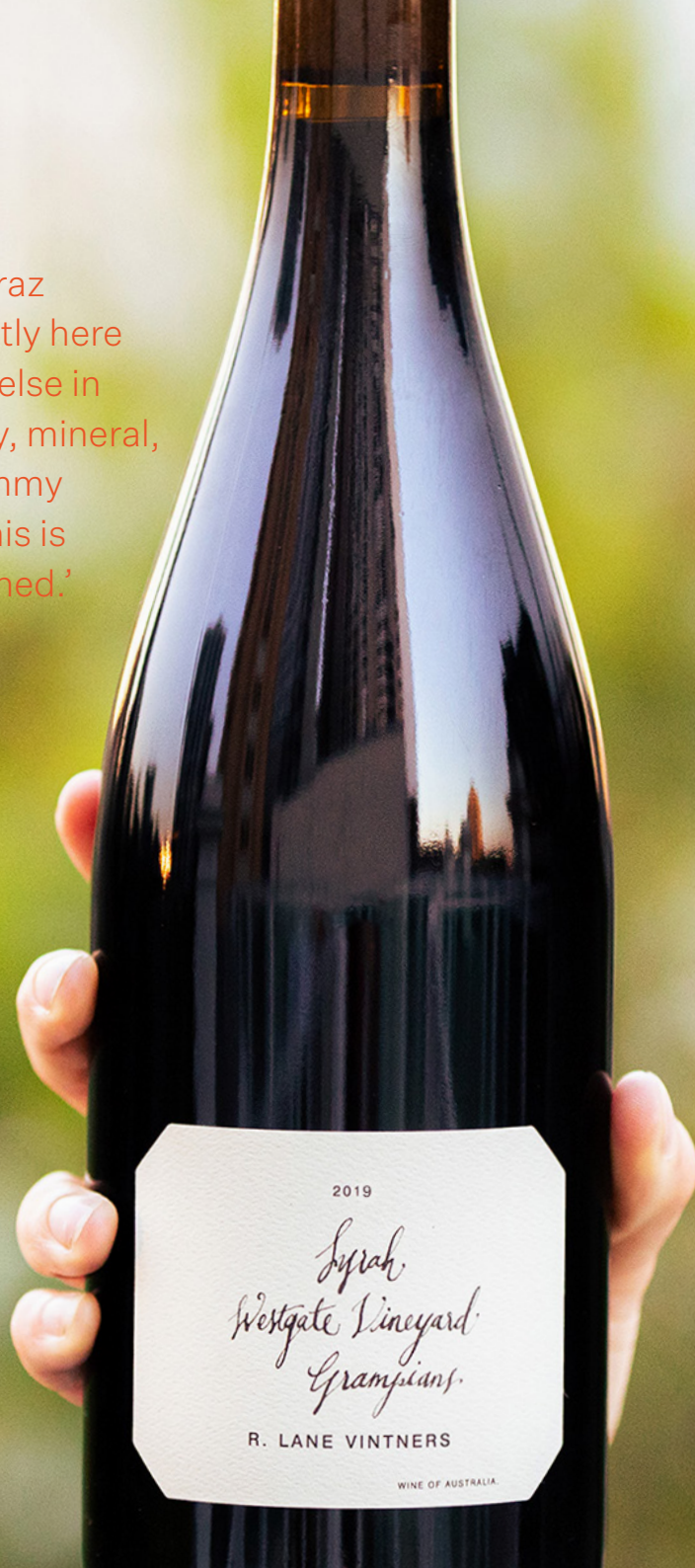
'From the '60s plantings of the Westgate Vineyard, the R. Lane label is reserved for exceptional wines in exceptional vintages. A very complex and compelling wine, with all the many components welded together so that no person should seek to set asunder. It is savoury and brambly, drenched in wild blackberry and black cherry flavours, licorice a fellow traveller, as are tannins.'

James Halliday, 96 points, *Wine Companion*



‘Grampians Shiraz dances differently here than anywhere else in Australia. Sultry, mineral, tart, spicy, plummy and stemmy; this is very accomplished.’

Matthew Jukes,
95 points, *Decanter*



2019 R. Lane Vintners Westgate Vineyard Shiraz

The 1969-planted Westgate Vineyard, in the hills south of the town of Great Western in the Grampians, has been consistently and unquestionably the highest quality grape source for the Story Wines. In 2019 the vines gave a small yield, very similar to the lauded 2014 vintage, which was the catalyst for the range. Only 150 dozen are made, and then only in exceptional years.

‘Again I split the harvest into 3 batches, some destemmed, some with a small percentage of whole bunches and then a smaller ferment as whole bunches. All were fermented with ambient yeasts.

From these three ferments I had ample elements with which to make a final cuvée. The batches were individually matured for twelve months in barrel (a mixture of French puncheons and barriques) before a final ‘best barrels’ selection was blended and held in tank for a further four months.’

In 2019 it comprised 50% whole bunches, and approximately 20% new oak. It was then bottled with no fining or filtration.

Limited back vintage stock available.

- 13.5% ABV
- Vegan



The Story Gin

The Story Gin

Gin, perhaps more immediately than wine even, reflects the origin of its ingredients. Approaching our gin, we were keen to create something that tasted distinctly Australian, without veering into caricature. The aroma of local finger limes, wattle seeds, lemon scented gum and three different types of myrtle combine to transport you to the smell of the Australian bush — or perhaps a backyard — which is where we want to enjoy this with some good tonic over ice on a warm summer evening.


Native Australian Botanicals:

Mountain Pepper Berry, Riberry, Wattle Seed, Lemon Myrtle, Aniseed Myrtle, Cinnamon Myrtle, Finger Lime, Eucalyptus Citriodora

Also, organic Polish Juniper.

- 700mL, hand bottled and waxed, individually numbered hand drawn labels.





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Pricelist

	TOTAL PRODUCTION	PACK SIZE	PACK PRICE (AUD FOB)	AVAILABLE PER ORDER
2021 Whitlands Riesling	250 dozen	12	\$185	2 pallets
2018 Westgate Vineyard Marsanne Roussanne Viognier	230 dozen	12	\$185	2 pallets
2021 Grampians Grenache	330 dozen	12	\$185	2 pallets
2021 Grampians Syrah	450 dozen	12	\$185	3 pallets
2021 Moyston Hills Syrah	400 dozen	12	\$235	2 pallets
2019 R. Lane Vintners Westgate Vineyard Syrah	150 dozen	6	\$185	32 dozen
The Story Gin	—	6	\$138	1 pallet (pending stock available)

Order Information

Minimum order 1 pallet

Payment: 50% deposit, 50% one month from receipt of stock



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