
IAN HONGELL

Senior Winemaker

Ian grew up in the Barossa, Australia, where it was easy for him to develop an interest in wine. Surrounded by his family vineyards and having parents involved in the industry helped guide him towards a future in winemaking.

Vintages in the cellars around the Barossa and New South Wales in the late 1980's and early 1990's created his thirst for experience and travel led to vintages in California USA, Haut-Medoc France, Rhine-Hessen Germany.

Completion of an Oenology degree in 1990-92 was the catalyst that started an active role in winemaking. A position at Penfold's for the 1992 vintage was a wonderful turn around after squashing his first grapes in an ice cream bucket and seeing it ferment at the age of seven.

Seventeen vintages later Ian is the Senior Winemaker at Peter Lehmann Wines in the Barossa Valley, a position he has held since 1998. Working in a close team environment allows the winemaking team to experience the diversity of the Barossa Valley through the wines that are made each vintage.

In a quest to help understand one of the Barossa's favourite varieties Shiraz; he planted a small vineyard in 1999 on his family property. Personally tending the vines has given Ian a greater understanding of the link between wine, earth and weather. It has started a process of understanding what it takes to make great wine from the ground up and also a realization of how much more is needed to be learnt.

Highlights of his winemaking career as part of the Peter Lehmann team to date include;

- 2003 & 2006 International Winemaker of the Year, International Wine & Spirit Competition
- 2003 & 2006 Australian Producer of the Year International Wine & Spirit Competition
- 2006 White Winemaker of the Year – International Wine Challenge UK

Outside of the winery Ian takes an active role in wine show judging at a national level and is also involved in the Barossa wine show committee.

The strong links to The Hess group of companies and the Hess Collection winery in California has resulted in the USA becoming a market that Ian visits regularly. For Ian, seeing the response to the Peter Lehmann Wines around the globe is immensely satisfying. He has great pride in the wine we craft and the Barossa provides him with a sense of place that he loves taking to the world.

E: ian.hongell@peterlehmannwines.com

M: +61 407 798 002



Peter
LEHMANN
of the Barossa

The PEOPLE, STORIES & WINES
THAT MAKE *the* BAROSSA FAMOUS