



MATT LANE

Torbreck Vintners was founded by David Powell in 1994 when he began to discover and clean up a few sections of dry-grown old vines in the Barossa Valley.

It was named after a forest in Scotland where he worked as a lumberjack in his earlier years. He managed to raise enough money to share-farm a few vineyards, a practice that involves paying the owner a percentage of the market rate for his grapes in return for totally managing the vineyard.

This share-farming principle, along with company-owned vineyards acquired over the life of the business, has enabled Torbreck to use fruit from the very best vineyards in the Barossa Valley. Thanks to its freedom from phylloxera, the valley is home to some of the most precious old vines in the world.

The Torbreck endeavour is based around the classic Rhone varietals of Shiraz, Grenache and Mataro, from mostly old vines scattered throughout the microclimates of the Barossa. Whilst Torbreck specialises in making red wines, there is Viognier, Marsanne and Roussanne planted on our Descendant vineyard which we blend into white wine. The first wine was the 1995 RunRig crushed from just three tonnes of Shiraz and Viognier grapes.

Torbreck was purchased by Pete Kight in 2008 enabling patient capital needed to invest in our long term vision of being 100% estate produced and bottled. A new winery building and administration facility was opened the same year on land acquired from an adjoining property.

This facility enables our grapes to be handpicked, vinified into wine using the best available equipment, matured in temperature controlled cellars and then bottled 'on the estate' using a state of the art bottling line, before being shipped to many of the world's best restaurants and fine wine retailers.

The passion and commitment to wine is hard to match in Matt Lane. He brought this to Torbreck, along with considerable experience in Australia, The United States and Canada.

He was named South Australian Sommelier of the Year in 2001, and also won the exclusive international Vin de Champagne award for South Australia two times. He has served as a guest lecturer at the University of Adelaide, and also taught wine education at Johnson & Wales culinary school, as well as at Harvard and Stanford Universities.

An alumni from the University of California, Davis and is currently undertaking the rigorous Institute of Masters of Wine program. He is an accredited professional wine judge and holds numerous awards of distinction, including from WSET, the Wine and Spirits Education Trust of London, and certification from the Court of Master Sommeliers, USA chapter.

His most recent position as VP Americas for Peter Lehmann Wines saw him responsible for the entirety of the PLW business in the continent. Prior to this, Matt held the position of Director of Treasury Wines Estates 'Heirloom Luxury wine group' and was previously the Americas Wine Education Ambassador for Penfolds Winery.

Bringing a wealth of knowledge and business acumen enables Torbreck to have a dedicated market ambassador, showcasing the premium Torbreck portfolio within a growing and highly engaged US & Canadian market.

Matt, a native Australian has lived in the Napa Valley since 2003 and is based out of the Wine Creek office in Sonoma County.