



## David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

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# Media Statement

December 15, 2017

### **Wine grants available to boost tourism in the Granite Belt**

THE Granite Belt could become Queensland's version of the Barossa Valley as the Federal Government and the Australian wine industry team up to attract an additional 40,000 international tourists to our iconic wine regions through the \$50 million Export and Regional Wine Support Package, Maranoa MP David Littleproud said.

"There are two \$5 million grant programs available to attract international tourists to Australia's diverse and unique wine experiences and the Granite Belt is best-placed to take up this opportunity to grow Australia's food, wine and tourism reputation," Mr Littleproud said.

"This will fund activities such as wine tourism marketing campaigns, wine events, infrastructure and innovative products to attract international tourists to Australia's wine regions and enhance their experience.

"The \$5 million International Wine Tourism State Grants provide state wine associations with funding for international wine tourism research, planning and implementation activities.

"Together, these grants enhance the wine tourism experiences of international visitors — helping grow wine exports and further strengthening the reputation of Australian wines internationally.

"The Export and Regional Wine Support Package is a \$50 million, three-year plan to increase the value of wine exports up to a record \$3.5 billion and attract an additional 40,000 international tourists to Australian wine regions — who are worth \$170 million to the Australian economy.

"Australia's wine industry is in a strong position, with the export value of Australian wine growing 13% to \$2.44 billion and the volume by 9 per cent to 799 million litres in the latest Wine Australia Export Report.

"The Export and Regional Wine Support Package aims to leverage off this momentum and increase the value of wine exports and substantially grow international wine tourism to regional communities."

The grants are administered by Wine Australia. For more information on how to apply, visit <http://erwsp.wineaustralia.com>. Applications close 5pm, March 2, 2018 ACDT.

## Fast facts

- Wine Australia's Export Report found Australian wine exports grew strongly in both volume and value in the 12 months to 30 September 2017.
- Export value grew 13 per cent to \$2.44 billion and volume grew by 9 per cent to 799 million litres.
- The value of exports to mainland China grew 56 per cent to a record \$739 million
- The Export and Regional Wine Support Package is a \$50 million, three-year plan to increase the value of wine exports up to a record 3.5 billion and attract an additional 40,000 international tourists to Australian wine regions by 2019-20—a \$170 million injection to the Australian economy.

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