

inkberry



Winemaker Debbie Lauritz - Central Ranges, Australia

Winemaker Debbie Lauritz is a passionate, cool-climate specialist. Having made wine in the cool regions of Alsace in France, Marlborough in New Zealand and Niagara in Canada, Debbie is now crafting fine wines in Central Ranges, NSW Australia where she is revelling in the combination of high-altitude and cool-climate grape growing.

"An absolute belief in cool-climate viticulture and winemaking brought me to the Central Ranges near Orange in NSW. With the altitude and resulting intense UV sunlight I can produce a very different style of wine to that from typically warmer wine regions in Australia. And it's a style that I love; dark, inky fruit, generosity of flavor, touches of spice and a well-balanced structure," explains Debbie.

A 2002 Oenology graduate from the University of Adelaide in Australia, Debbie worked alongside Winemaker Phillip Shaw at Inkberry for two vintages, before taking over the reins in late 2008. With a 1255 acre vineyard estate (at 1800 feet above sea-level) to draw from, Debbie believes that the ability to manage the fruit from the first hand-pick in the vineyard through to the finished wine is a unique opportunity.

Debbie says, "I work hand-in-hand with the viticultural team to grow fruit which expresses a purity of flavor and a supple tannin structure. Hand-selection in the vineyard and responsive winemaking in the winery helps us to create varietally precise wines that allow the fruit to really express itself to the full."

Debbie's restrained hand in the winery ensures rich, deep fruit flavors are the main character in the Inkberry wine. Other wine features such as oak, yeast, malo-lactic and alcohol play a supporting role in the finished wine. True to its cool-climate lineage, Debbie's wine absolutely reflects the quality of the Mountain estate.

Born and bred in Brisbane, Australia, Debbie's interest in the wine industry was initially sparked by a year spent as an exchange student living in Lyon, France near world-famous Burgundy. Exploring the subtleties of cool-climate wines is a natural extension of her passion for beautiful scenery, great food and truly fine wine.

