

24 September 2007

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## Spring Fever – Week One events on the Granite Belt

The annual Granite Belt Spring Wine Festival season kicks off on Friday in style when the industry's 'good and the great' give their DJs an outing to the Queensland College of Wine Tourism.

Black tie is the dress for the sumptuous six course dinner, themed *Tastes of the Granite Belt* at the College on Friday 28 September. Chef Andrew Simpson and his team are keen to showcase their skills in matching region's finest wines matched to fabulous food. Bookings essential 4685 5050.

Also on the festival programme for the first week are these events:

### FRIDAY 28<sup>th</sup> September

- 7pm – **What's Cooking** at Whiskey Gully Wines 4683 5100

### SATURDAY 29<sup>th</sup>

- 9-10.30am **Sparkling Winemaker's Breakfast** 4683 5292
- From 10am **Wine Fiesta** at the Wine College on Saturday 29 September. Wine and food stalls plus live entertainment all al fresco from 10am to 6pm. Tickets \$10/person on arrival and includes commemorative wine glass. 4685 5050.
- 2.30pm **Wine Master Class** sample and learn – four wines matched with chef's finger food at the Wine College. Bookings essential 4685 5050.
- 7pm **Beverley Banquet** 4683 5100
- 6.30 for 7pm **Six Course Gourmet Dinner** at Severn Brae 4683 5292

### SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup>

- 9-10.30am **Sparkling Winemaker's Breakfast** 4683 5292
- 12-2pm **Perfect Match Degustation Lunch** 4681 2377

**Visit, taste, celebrate and educate your palate:** The 2007 Granite Belt Spring Wine Season includes sixty events held over six weeks beginning Friday 28 September. *Expect to be surprised!*

For accommodation bookings or full event information see [www.granitebeltwinecountry.com.au](http://www.granitebeltwinecountry.com.au) or phone 1800 50 COOL.

### ENDS

1. The history of the Queensland wine industry dates back to the 1860s - and like all good wines it has developed with age.
2. 35% of Queensland's 1500 hectares of wine grapes are in the state's premier wine region - the Granite Belt.
3. 64% of Granite Belt plantings are of Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay and Merlot with an increasing number of plantings of alternative grape varieties proving popular. Verdelho, Viognier, Tempranillo and Durif are rising stars.
4. The Granite Belt is home to approximately 50 wine cellar doors, the state's most awarded winemakers, plus the Queensland College of Wine Tourism - the first of its type in the world.