

Hamish and Kate Laurie continue a five generation family tradition of winemaking in South Australia.

Deviation Road produces exciting cool climate wines from mature vineyard resources in the Adelaide Hills. Specialising in producing high quality sparkling wines using traditional methods, the company sources fruit from 3 Ha of their own vineyards, and sources additional fruit from growers in the region. Total production is 7000 cases and the winery site includes a cellar door facility that hosts dedicated high end tourism experiences.

The Longwood property which is home to the winery and cellar door was originally selected by Hamish and Kate for its natural biodiversity. Hamish and Kate have always had a strong focus on protecting the environment which started with protecting 80% of the natural bushland on the property.

The following are key points from our submission for the 2019 SAIWA Environmental Excellence Awards.

***2019 South Australian Wine Industry Association Environmental Excellence Award winner
Award category: Small to medium winery business (≤\$20 M total gross revenue)***

What was the major project/program or group of projects/programs? A range of projects contribute to demonstrate our endeavours and leadership at this scale of production in our region. These include

- A range of Sustainable design principles incorporated in our winery design (including highly insulated and lightweight materials of construction)
- Implementation of a new 26kW solar PV system to generate electricity for use on site, with a further 26kW system to be incorporated upon completion of new building
- Minimal chemical use – our philosophy of making wine is for minimal additives to reduce waste production and excess energy usage. Still white wines are stabilised using CMC to reduce energy usage normally incurred through traditional cold stabilising methods. Furthermore, we have recently installed specially designed surface-treated (mirror finish) tanks that require almost no chemicals for cleaning – thereby reducing costs and waste generation. We also have an onsite waste separation program, splitting all hard waste into 5 sections to be dealt with accordingly through relevant recycling channels. This ranges from metal, glass and timber waste down to coffee pods.
- Minimising electricity use – apart from generating our own electricity for use on-site, we are also minimising our electricity usage through insulating our tanks and winery building with the most effective and cost-efficient materials.

Why did you develop these project(s) or program(s) These were developed naturally as part of our business planning that always takes thorough consideration of environmental as well as financial and social aspects. Sparkling wine production using the traditional method has a high energy demand throughout the year, from vintage through to tirage and disgorging. This extra demand on the environment created the impetus for us to explore all available avenues we can employ to minimise this load on the financial and environmental aspects of our business.

ALL PROJECTS

Scale of environmental improvement or impact– *quantifiable improvements achieved as well as qualitative impacts*

- Lower energy inputs – The PV system generates about 40MWh per year, equivalent to about 25 tonnes of Carbon offset savings per year, which has contributed to an estimated 80% reduction in grid electricity consumption for the site
- Tirage stock (sparkling wines) can now be stored on site due to the constant temperatures maintained within both winery buildings. This reduces storage costs as well as removes the need to transport the bins off site, reducing fuel load and improving efficiency.
- The natural cooling effect of the new building on the current winery shed, which was strategically positioned along its northern wall, will enable this room to be suitable for barrel and packaged wine storage, which we didn't previously have.
- The installation of mirror finish tanks has led to the complete elimination of cleaning chemicals for tartrate removal along with reduction in water and energy use of up to 93% and 90% respectively. Furthermore, the time saving in labour costs for cleaning processes is estimated to be 98%.
- The reduction in chemical use for cleaning is amplified by additional savings through reduction in the amount of wastewater produced and the subsequent energy required for treatment.

Community 'social and economic' and stakeholder engagement and impact– *at regional, national or global levels*

- We are a growing sustainable business – we employ local staff and source local supplies from local businesses and thereby contribute to the broader economy.
- Our efforts in sustainability are also translated to the community that are our customers. In particular the tourism experiences at the cellar door which overlooks the production facility and heritage listed vegetation. Our customers are able to see first-hand the benefits of our approach and learn from our staff about our sustainable projects.