

# DE BORTOLI WINES

## Time Line

- 1928** Vittorio De Bortoli's **first crush** of just 15 tonnes of black Shiraz grapes that he makes into wine for family and friends.
- 1929** Vittorio De Bortoli's **marries** Giuseppina Bisa on 22<sup>nd</sup> November
- 1936** **Deen De Bortoli** is born 17<sup>th</sup> August.
- 1951** Vittorio & Giuseppina's 15 year old son Deen **joins the business** spearheading the relentless **expansion** that would take place under Deen's stewardship.
- 1958** Deen De Bortoli **marries** Emeri Cunial
- 1960** The **3rd Generation** of De Bortolis are born during this decade. Darren De Bortoli, current Managing Director born in 1960 followed by Leanne in 1961, Kevin in 1962 and Victor in 1969.
- 1970** Australia's first major **“wine boom”** occurs during this decade. Deen is instrumental in introducing wine to a whole new generation of wine lovers.
- 1979** Vittorio & Giuseppina celebrate their **50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary** but Vittorio dies just a few weeks later.
- 1982** Newly qualified winemaker Darren De Bortoli creates the acclaimed **Noble One** originally released as De Bortoli Australian Sauternes Botrytis Semillon
- 1985** Noble One wins the Trophy for **Best Botrytis Wine** at the International Wine & Spirit Competition. It would win again in 1992 and 2004
- 1987** The De Bortoli family purchases a **winery and vineyard** in the **Yarra Valley**, Victoria.
- 1990** Leanne De Bortoli and her winemaker husband Steve Webber **launch** the award winning Yarra Valley **Winery & Restaurant** complex and also the popular **Windy Peak** label.
- 1991** The first members of the **4<sup>th</sup> Generation** of De Bortolis are born, Kate Webber & Ben De Bortoli.
- 1996** Victor De Bortoli establishes the company's **first off-shore branch in the UK**, followed with branches opening in Europe (Belgium) and the United States.
- 1997** De Bortoli wins the **Jimmy Watson Trophy**, Australia's most prestigious wine award
- 1998** De Bortoli expands its Victorian vineyard holdings into the **King Valley** .
- 2000** The Yarra Valley Chardonnay 1998 wins the Trophy for **Best Chardonnay** at the International Wine & Spirit Competition.
- 2002** The De Bortoli family purchases a **winery and vineyard** in the famous **Hunter Valley** with the aim of producing the wines for which the region is famous for notably Semillon and Shiraz
- 2003** The De Bortoli family celebrates **75 years** of making wine in Australia but **Deen De Bortoli** dies suddenly on 26<sup>th</sup> October.
- 2006** De Bortoli Bilbul Cellar Door is awarded **Best Tourism Winery** at the NSW Inland Tourism Awards
- 2007** Steve Webber is **Winemaker of the Year** awarded by Gourmet Traveller WINE Magazine

**2008** De Bortoli Yarra Valley is awarded **Best Tourism Winery** at the Victorian Tourism Awards

**2009** Noble One celebrates 25 successful vintages with the release of the 2007 vintage

De Bortoli is an Inaugural Member of Australia's First Families of Wine

Yarra Valley wins Best Tourism Winery at the Australian Tourism Awards

De Bortoli is Producer of the Year- in Matt Skinner's book The Juice

Yarra Valley Winemaker Sarah Fagan is Gourmet Traveller WINE Magazine  
Young Winemaker of the Year.

**2010** Winery of the Year in Quaff compiled by Peter Forrestal