

POSITION DESCRIPTION: WINEMAKER

Marnong Estate is in an exciting growth phase with the construction of a new high-spec winery that will be at the centre of operations, integrating with the single-estate vineyard and supporting further expansion plans to include additional cool-climate and Italian varietals.

The new Winemaker will have the rare opportunity to take ownership of the new facility and oversee the final stages of the development, due for completion for Vintage 2024. This is a hands-on role that will be responsible for wine quality, developing and implementing operational processes and building a strong team.

Reporting directly to the General Manager, the Winemaker will form part of the senior leadership team and manage all winemaking operations. This role will be a brand advocate, promoting the Estate and building upon its recent successes and recognition. Driving fine wine culture at Marnong will involve staff education and guidance, sharing knowledge and providing leadership across all areas of the business.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Oversee the final stages of the winery development and commission
- Work closely with the Vineyard Manager, progressing viticultural plans in-line with production forecasts and strategies
- Collaborate with the wine business team, ensuring tight integration across operations
- Coordinate external contract winemaking facilities, planning relocation of operations to new on-site winery
- Manage all winemaking operations, including the implementation and control of winery management systems
- Manage winery budgets, forecasting and production growth modelling, delivering detailed financials and reports
- Develop and manage the winery team, providing staff training, leadership and guidance
- Provide hands-on operational support as required, coordinating cellar operations and work schedules
- Prepare a production plan to stabilise supply and demand balance, ensuring quality and profitability
- Develop proactive operations-focused processes, including a preventative maintenance plan
- Ensure all regulatory compliance requirements are met, including workplace health and safety
- Progress growth plans for the wine business, managing ongoing capital investment projects
- Propose and manage internal projects, from concept stage through to execution
- Represent the brand at trade and consumer events, building brand awareness and reputation

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE:

- Tertiary qualification in Oenology
- 10 years relevant experience
- Business management & financial reporting experience
- Wine sensory & quality analysis training, such as AWAC, Len Evans Scholar or show judging

- Valid forklift & driver's licence

REQUIREMENTS:

- Leadership & communication skills
- Eye for operational efficiencies
- Proactive and innovative approach
- Aptitude for managing a diverse workload
- Physically capable of performing operational duties
- Capacity for domestic travel
- Ability to work extended hours when required

INTERFACES:

INTERNAL

- General Manager
- Vineyard Manager
- Brand Manager
- Winery & Vineyard teams
- Accounts team
- Sales & Marketing teams
- Operations & Hospitality teams

EXTERNAL

- Contractors & suppliers
- Consultants
- Contract winemaking & bottling providers
- Media, trade & consumers
- Wine industry associations & bodies