

POSITION DESCRIPTION: WINEMAKER

First Creek is a family-owned and run business, with a highly awarded winemaking team and outstanding portfolio of wines. Consistently recognised as one of Australia's top producers and an exemplar of Hunter Valley fine wine culture, First Creek remains focused on quality, tradition and innovation. Investment in state-of-the-art technology and equipment at its 2500T winery, including the addition of a third bottling line, has led expansion across all areas of the business.

First Creek is also the leading contract winemaking and bottling facility in the Hunter Valley, with an extensive client list. Working with some of the most highly awarded and premier brands in NSW, First Creek is focused on delivering exceptional results to ensure their clients' ongoing success. A diverse mix of wine styles are produced using a range of varieties from vineyards across NSW.

This is a hands-on role that will have a broad range of responsibilities across all areas of production, assisting the senior winemaking team and overseeing work plans. The Winemaker will be working with various processes, methods and technologies, gaining experience and knowledge across the full scope of winemaking operations.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Coordinate and oversee day-to-day winery work plan
- Assist in cellar operations and winery maintenance processes
- Maintain winery management system and records
- Coordinate and manage bottling schedules, specifications and supplies
- Maintain and adhere to standard operating procedures, preparing wines to style, schedule and budget
- Support all contract winemaking operations and production
- Liaise with contract clients, facilitating relationships and delivering specified outcomes
- Recruitment and training of vintage staff
- Represent the business at trade events
- Ensure workplace health & safety, environmental and regulatory standards are adhered to

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE:

- Tertiary qualification in Oenology
- 5 years relevant experience, familiar with efficient medium-large scale production systems and operations
- Valid forklift & driver's licence

REQUIREMENTS:

- Strong technical skills, with high level of attention to detail
- Proficient in production functions, including blending and bottling
- Sharp palate and knowledge of a broad range of wine styles
- Enthusiastic approach to fine wine culture and industry involvement
- Interest in learning wine business and commerce fundamentals
- Aptitude for team work and leadership
- Ability to communicate effectively
- Physically capable of performing operational duties

- Capacity for domestic travel
- Ability to work extended hours when required

KEY INTERACTIONS:

INTERNAL

- Managing Director
- Chief Operating Officer/Director
- Winemaking team:
 - Chief Winemaker
 - Senior Winemaker
 - Bottling Winemaker
 - Cellarhands
- HR & Admin

EXTERNAL

- Contract winemaking clients
- Contractors & suppliers
- Customers & consumers
- Wine industry associations & bodies