

POSITION DESCRIPTION: HEAD VITICULTURIST

A Margaret River icon, Voyager Estate is now one of Australia's leading organic wine producers, setting industry benchmarks and models for sustainable viticulture and winemaking. At the centre of Voyager Estate's long-term success is the continual drive for excellence in wine quality, site improvement and sustainability. From the first plantings in 1978, Voyager Estate has been an innovative and award-winning producer of world-class Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon.

Reflecting Voyager Estate's strong commitment to land stewardship, their portfolio of wines are an expression of site and fruit purity, from the estate's organically certified 102 Ha vineyard. Investment in over 20 years of viticulture trials, implementing organic farming practices and initiatives to improve their environmental impact and reduce emissions, are key elements to achieving their target of Net Zero by 2050.

Reporting to the Chief Winemaker, the Head Viticulturist will be responsible for all vineyard operations, financials, planning and team leadership. This is a senior management role that will be at the centre of growth and redevelopment plans. With outstanding resources and support, this is a once in a career opportunity to leave a legacy, reinforcing Voyager Estate as an industry leader and resource in wine quality, organics and environmental sustainability.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Manage all vineyard operations and develop a proactive viticultural plan, driving wine quality and productivity
- Manage the viticulture team, providing thought leadership and opportunities for professional development
- Oversee organic and sustainability commitments, assisting in strategic direction and ensuring compliance
- Consolidate organic farming practices, developing sustainability management policies aligned with business objectives and commitments
- Advance the sustainability and environmental action plan, implementing innovative strategies and methods
- Assist with growth and development plans, including capital investment projects
- Manage the vineyard budget and financial reporting, streamlining expenditure to facilitate profitable and effective operations
- Ensure compliance with all regulatory and internal policies, including safe work practices

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE:

- Tertiary qualification in viticulture, applied science, agriculture science or equivalent discipline
- At least 10 years relevant experience in high-end viticulture and vineyard management
- Experience with sustainable and/or organic farming practices preferred
- Extensive technical knowledge and agribusiness management experience
- Experience in change management and business development
- Proven ability to proactively lead and advance a team

REQUIREMENTS:

- Strong leadership skills and management strategies
- Business and financial acumen
- Inquisitive and a proactive problem-solver
- Highly developed organisation and communication skills

- Capacity for light domestic travel
- Valid driver's licence

KEY INTERACTIONS:

INTERNAL

- CEO
- Chief Winemaker
- Viticulture team
- Winemaking team
- Sales & Brand team
- Maintenance & Machinery
- HR & Safety team
- Finance
- Landsmith Collection resources

EXTERNAL

- Consultants and contractors
- Suppliers
- Industry bodies & associations
- International Wineries for Climate Action (IWCA)
- Australian Certified Organic
- Sustainable Winegrowing Australia (SWA)
- Trade & media