

# Support wineries in China trade war

ANGIRA BHARADWAJ



John, Richard and Victoria Angove, from Angove Family Winemakers in McLaren Vale, are backing a buy-local campaign. Picture: Simon Casson



WINE industry heavyweights are calling on Aussie drinkers to rally behind local producers amid rising trade tensions with China.

After enduring drought, the 2019 Black Summer bushfires and the coronavirus pandemic, Australian wine producers are now facing Chinese tariffs of up to 200 per cent. The tax on wine exports is the latest blow for Australian producers after China imposed 80 per cent tariffs on barley and banned imports from six Australian beef suppliers.

Australian winemakers are urging locals to celebrate with homegrown wine this festive season instead of exported products.

Australian Grape and Wine chief executive Tony Battaglione said it was crucial that locals helped producers get through the supply that can no longer be exported.

"It's been a pretty tough year with the bushfires and smoke and COVID," Mr Battaglione, pictured, said. "Now, with China the big concern is that it impacts about 2400 producers. We need people to try and get through this year's supply.

"China is a \$1.2bn market and that is a lot of wine to try and move into other markets. We hope everyone gives a case of wine to their friends for Christmas to try and help producers."

Peak body Wine Australia also backed the calls for Aussies to give the gift of local wine this Christmas.

"The recently announced changes to tariffs will affect thousands of wine companies exporting to China," a spokeswoman said. "Unfortunately, the tariffs come off the back of a year where wineries in some regions have been affected by fires and, more broadly, by the restrictions on cellar doors (imposed by COVID-19 safeguards).

"If (people) get the opportunity, please do go out and explore the many brilliant regions and get to know some wineries first-hand."

To help back Australian wine producers, The Advertiser is offering readers the delicious Drinks Delivered Australian wines offer.

The offer is a mixed case of Australian wines, with most wines from smaller wineries around the country. The case of 12 wines, plus two free Tyrrell's sparkling wines, will cost just \$139.99.

Angove Family Winemakers, from McLaren Vale, say South Australians have always been "exceptional" supporters of the fifth-generation vigneron family's wine.

Joint managing director Richard Angove said while the trade effects on Australian producers were yet to be fully determined, the local industry would band together. He said domestic consumers were set to benefit most.

Order now to get your wine by Christmas

through [www.ddd.wine/6000009](http://www.ddd.wine/6000009)