

26-30
Sept
2022

FROM ITALY WITH LOVE

In the footsteps
of Margaret
River's Italian
winemakers



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"La vita è una combinazione di pasta e magia. Life is a combination of pasta and magic." - Federico Fellini

There's a reason that we all dream of living La Dolce Vita; the Italians really do know how to live the good life. With a daily celebration of the important things in life – good food, great wine and delicious company, you'll never go hungry (or thirsty) when travelling through Italy.

Margaret River has drawn some incredible winemaking and culinary talent from Italy over the years, thanks to its wonderful produce, world-class grape growing conditions and a welcoming Western Australian Italian community.

Take a journey through Margaret River's "Little Italy" and meet the winemakers crafting some of the region's most in-demand wines, learn about their Italian heritage and their continental winemaking inspiration. Of course, in Italy wine and food go hand in hand, so you'll be indulging in regional Italian feasts alongside local wines and those imported from Northern Italy.



Due to the intimate nature of this experience, places are limited and strictly first come, first served.

BOOK NOW

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This five-day food and wine immersion is curated and facilitated by Cassandra Charlick and Stepan Libricky.

A freelance travel and wine writer, Cassandra writes for Halliday magazine, Gourmet Traveller Wine magazine, Delicious. magazine, Escape magazine and many more publications. She's a reviewer for the WA Good Food Guide and presenter on Channel Nine's Our State on a Plate. With over 20 years of experience, Stepan's career includes hotel operations, immersive wine tourism, and tourism product development for names such as Hilton Hotels (Europe and across Australia), Xanadu Wines and Leeuwin Estate.

You'll be privy to wine travel tips, meet some legendary winemakers, access behind the scenes insider knowledge and dive deeper into the Italian magic found in Margaret River.

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Our From Italy with love: In the footsteps of Margaret River's Italian winemakers retreat includes the following:

- 4 nights luxury accommodation at the iconic Cape Lodge with a premium lakeside room. Daily Cape Lodge signature breakfast experience and daily aperitive hour.
- All meals, beverages and transfers for the duration of your stay.
- Italian inspired feasting throughout your stay. You'll be looked after by the Cape Lodge culinary team and Earn Your Vino's private chef, Mel Kokoti whose accolades include an Australian Good Food Guide hat and having been placed in the WA top 50 three years running.
- Lace-up an apron and dust your hands with flour as a hands-on experience crafting hand-made pasta with Chef Mel in a cooking masterclass. An Italian feast awaits after the morning's activity in the kitchen, paired with Mr Barval wines. Rob Gherardi is the winemaker and co-founder of Mr Barval, and his Italian heritage and experience winemaking in Italy is evident in the small-batch wines he crafts.
- A morning amongst the biodynamic vineyards and in the winery with McHenry Hohnen's Head Winemaker Jacopo "Japo" Dalli Cani. Afterwards, join Murray McHenry for an intimate "meet the maker" experience; a rustic Italian provincial long lunch in the barrel hall, with McHenry Hohnen paired wines.
- Savour a hearty campfire Italian stew and journey from Margaret River to Northern Italy with Larry Cherubino Wines after a coastal hike amongst the region's pristine terroir with local guide Dianne James.
- Four evenings filled with decadent Italian trattoria feasts and a trip around Northern Italy, paired with private wine tastings from Margaret River's Italian winemaker guests at Cape Lodge. Travel around the globe via your tastebuds and wineglass.



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DAY 1

Check into Cape Lodge, Margaret River's iconic luxury lodge. This will be your home away from home for the best part of the week, so settle in, unpack your bags and get acquainted with the beautiful lakeside view room that is yours for the duration of your stay.

The afternoon is yours to enjoy at leisure, perhaps take the time to explore the 40 acres of private property and walking trails, or enjoy a hit of tennis or a dip in the swimming pool. Of course, it's perfectly acceptable to simply run a spa bath and pour a welcome negroni to kick off your Italian sojourn with!



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DAY 1 CONT'D

Join Cassandra, Stepan and your fellow guests for a welcome aperitivo in the elegant and relaxed surrounds of the Cape Lodge Wine Bar.

After hellos, we'll move next door to the dining room for an Italian four course chef's tasting menu by the Cape Lodge culinary team, featuring some of the region's seasonal and award winning produce.



Fill your glasses as Cassandra kicks off our wine journey through some of Margaret River's Italian varietals, before we journey further afield to the rolling hills of Italy.

Be sure to gaze up at the stars on the way back to your room and take a quiet moment of reflection.

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DAY 2

Wake up to the tranquil surrounds of Cape Lodge and enjoy a slow start to the day with a relaxing breakfast in the dining room. Cape Lodge's signature breakfast experience includes a selection of cooked breakfast dishes, and a continental buffet. Overlooking the tree-lined lake, it's the perfect way to ease into the day's adventures.

This morning we'll be travelling to the southernmost Margaret River sub-region of Karridale, to the McHenry Hohnen vineyards and winery. Not normally open to the public, you'll enjoy a private guided tour of the biodynamic vineyards and the winery with McHenry Hohnen's Head Winemaker Jacopo "Japo" Dalli Cani.

Hailing from Soave in North Eastern Italy, Japo has honed his winemaking skills throughout other wine regions both in Europe and in the new world.

After learning about the biodynamic practices that govern the vineyard management and experiencing the types of winemaking techniques that Japo uses to deliver McHenry Hohnen's award-winning minimal intervention wines, it's time for some Italian style pranzo (lunch).



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DAY 2
CONT'D

Afterwards join McHenry Hohnen's founder and director, Murray McHenry for an intimate "meet the maker" experience; a rustic Italian provincial long lunch in the barrel hall, with McHenry Hohnen paired wines. Mel Kokoti is our private chef for the week, having held an Australian Good Food Guide hat and a place in the WA top 50 restaurants for three years running.

After lunch return to Cape Lodge, where you'll have the afternoon at your disposal to enjoy the activities and facilities on offer at Cape Lodge.

Tonight we'll be heading to North East Italy, Japo's homeland and where his winemaking journey began. Join us for a pre-dinner private tasting with the winemaker of the McHenry Hohnen portfolio, including rare releases, and a museum vertical of their single vineyard Chardonnay.

For dinner it's time to dress up and enjoy a four course gala dinner with the winemaker; an Italian celebration featuring Veneto inspired dishes and wine from the Soave region alongside Margaret River varietals.



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DAY 3

After enjoying Cape Lodge's signature breakfast in the tranquil surrounds of the dining room it's time to get ready for another day of Italian adventures. This morning it's time to lace-up an apron and dust your hands with flour as a hands-on experience crafting hand-made pasta with Chef Mel in a cooking masterclass.

An Italian feast awaits after the morning's activity: antipasti, freshly cooked pasta, and local cheese paired with Mr Barval wines.

Rob Gherardi is the winemaker and co-founder of Mr Barval, and his Italian heritage and experience winemaking in Italy is evident in the small-batch wines he crafts.

The afternoon is yours to spend at leisure back in the haven of Cape Lodge.

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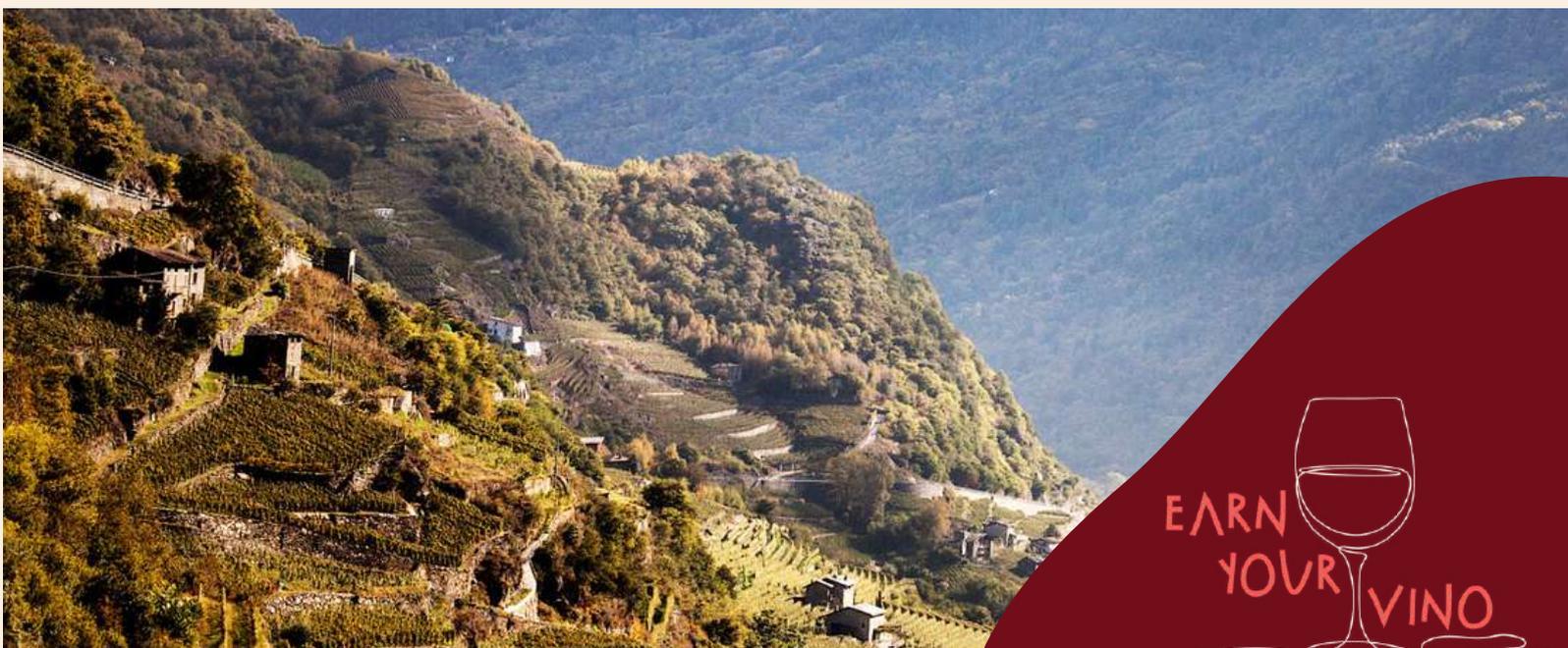


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DAY 3 CONT'D



This evening join Cassandra at the Cape Lodge Residence for a tasting of six Valtellina wines, and learn about this fascinating wine region in Northern Italy. Afterwards, relax your waistband as a rustic Valtellina inspired three course feast awaits, with regional specialities such as pizzoccheri (buckwheat pasta), porchetta and cured meats, all paired with Mr Barval wines.



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DAY 4



After breakfast it's time to lace up your hiking boots and get ready to see why Margaret River has drawn so many accoladed winemakers and culinary talents to live here.

You'll be in the expert hands of local hiking guide Diane James, who will share fresh insights to the landscape and flora and fauna of the region.

Stop and breath in the fresh autumn air for a moment and take a moment to honour the Wadandi country beneath your feet.



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DAY 4 CONT'D

You'll have truly earned your vino – and your lunch – after the morning. Enjoy a campfire seafood Italian stew with crusty bread, along with a selection of wines from Larry Cherubino Wines.

Larry Cherubino is one of Western Australia's most prominent Italian winemakers and produces a range of alternative varietals, as well as Linea Retta, an Italian collection of wines made in collaboration with La Spinetta's Giorgio Rivetti.

The final evening at Cape Lodge is yours to enjoy at leisure. The restaurant has prepared an Italian inspired dinner for your to book at a time of your choice, along with wines pre-selected by Cassandra to accompany.



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DAY 5



Enjoy one last leisurely breakfast at Cape Lodge before check out. If you'd like to continue your stay in Margaret River we would be more than happy to suggest additional itinerary options to compliment your From Italy with Love experience experience.

