



Twisted Gum

NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2018

The Granite Belt is looking lush and green this summer as usual. Andrew and Jenni stayed in Twisted Gum cottage recently and took some lovely photos, which they generously shared with us, including this great photo of our vineyard from a drone. It provides a wonderful bird's eye view of our little patch of paradise up here. ☺



We have put some numbers on the photo to help show you around. Starting with #1 is our new planting of Grenache and Mourvedre vines at our front gate; #2 our Cellar Door; #3 Verdelho and Black Muscat vineyard blocks; #4 our Winery; #5 more Verdelho and Black Muscat vines; #6 Twisted Gum Cottage (holiday accommodation); #7 our largest vineyard block containing Chardonnay, Semillon, Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon; #8 Cabernet Sauvignon vines; #9 our house overlooking #10 our main block of Shiraz vines. This photo depicts just a small section of our property. We have 40 hectares of land in total, on which we have 3.2 hectares of vineyard, with most of the remainder covered by beautiful native bushland featuring lots of impressive granite boulders and stunning twisted gum trees (*Eucalyptus Prava*).

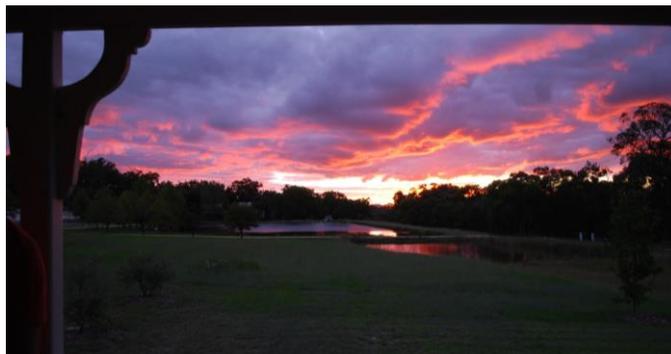
A Vacation for our Vineyard

Our Christmas present from Mother Nature this year was a nasty hail storm on Christmas night. The grapes were looking fantastic prior to this. We had a dry start to the season during flowering so the crop yield was low and the canopy was nice and open, allowing breezes and sunlight in to help prevent disease and ripen the fruit – quality was looking great. But an open canopy also means that hail does maximum damage to the immature bunches because there are fewer leaves to soften the impact of the hail. ☹️ So after a long and difficult business meeting at Twisted Gum Wines (ie. between Michelle and I) we decided that the best option was to go through and cut off all the remaining fruit and give our vineyard a nice rest this year. We will spread a generous amount of Organic Booster fertiliser (from Queensland Organics) across the whole vineyard this month and then give the vines a good chance to rest and recuperate before the next season.

The damage from the Christmas Day storm was widespread across the Granite Belt, but also quite patchy. Our vineyard copped a heavy hit while the vegetable farm just across the road was untouched. All part of the random nature of agriculture! Michelle and I both grew up on farms so we knew lady luck would deal us some bad cards from time to time. On the positive side, this is the first time in 11 years that we have had hail like this, so we have enough wine stocks in the winery to get us through to next vintage (on most of our wines), and the vineyard has quickly bounced back and looks fantastic at present – as you can see from the aerial photo. 😊

Events at Twisted Gum Wines in 2018

Our *Autumn Sunset Vineyard Walks* were a big hit last year, with people enjoying the beautiful Autumn colours in the vineyard, not to mention the guided tasting of our single vineyard, dry grown wines carefully matched with artisan cheeses on the veranda as the sunsets. We will be hosting them again each weekend in April this year.



Dates: 7, 14, 21 & 28 April 2018.

Time: 4pm to sunset.

Price: \$25 per person

This year we are also excited to announce a fabulous new Spring event: *Dinner Under the Stars* (replacing the Table for Sixteen Dinners). This is a food and wine experience not to be missed, where you can indulge in our hand crafted single vineyard wines carefully matched with a range of exciting dishes created by acclaimed local chef Jason Costanzo. Celebrate with us the joy of Spring in the Granite Belt, with a sumptuous dinner featuring ingredients from a variety of local small scale producers. This will be a truly unique dining experience with guests seated at long tables in the grounds of our stylish 1920s Queenslander cellar door building, all framed by the spectacular Granite Belt night sky!

Date: 10 Nov 2018.

Time: 6 pm.

Price: \$150 per person (incl. all food, wines & transport)

Places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment. For further information and online bookings see our events webpage [here](#).

Cheers!

Tim and Michelle Coelli

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