

# WESTERN AUSTRALIAN RIESLING TAKES DOUBLE GOLD IN US

**For Immediate Release**  
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Wine show results are seldom newsworthy anymore, but when you take a look at how both of the new 2010 X by Xabregas Rieslings trumped the latest US Wine Competition in California, you can rest assured that these off dry styles will give Western Australian Riesling a new voice.

X by Xabregas are the new single vineyard wines of Xabregas from their Mount Barker Estate and both of the first release 2010 Rieslings, Spencer and Figtree vineyards, received two of the three Golds awarded in their category of over 30 Rieslings at the Riverside Wine competition. The only gold medals from Western Australia in the entire show.

Xabregas owner, Paul Hogan, was delighted with the strike rate of his Mount Barker estate, “my Father established three vineyard sites in 1996 and we are now seeing the quality speak for itself on an international stage”

Newly appointed winemaker, Martin Cooper was given carte blanche by the Hogan family to start and carve out a new Mount Barker Riesling style that uses the region’s climatic conditions to full effect and by design differentiate themselves from the traditional Australian dry style regions, made famous by Clare and Eden Valley.

In doing so he has focused his best parcels from the estate as an off dry with an element of malolactic fermentation and lees stirring in tank which he believes increases mouth feel and complexity, Martin continues “I would say the influence is European and the key element is balance, not often observed in Australian Dry Style Rieslings”

The Riverside Wine Competition has entered its 30th year, and Chairman Dan Berger, the founding father of the International Riesling Foundation, has an obvious penchant for Riesling. “It was great to see new styles of Australian Riesling being entered here for the first time”

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