



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Canberra District Wine Harvest Festival 2009**

The Canberra District Wine Harvest Festival is held on the first weekend of April and showcases almost 30 wineries in the Canberra District who celebrate the tradition of bringing in the harvest.

Operating for over 20 years, the Canberra District Wine Harvest Festival is a high quality annual event that offers a feast for the senses with music and entertainment by local artists, fine food using fresh local produce and some of the best wines in the country.

This is a great opportunity for wine-lovers to visit some of the premier boutique wineries of the Canberra District and meet the winemakers who throw open their cellar doors, some normally closed to the public. Throughout the weekend, visitors can also take part in harvest activities, including stomping the grapes, tastings of new release wines and learning about wine making skills.

Harvest Festivals date back to the time when man stopped roaming and planted crops and the success of the crop governed the lives of the people. The whole community was invited to a huge feast to celebrate the temporary end to the work in the fields.

The winemakers of the Canberra District want to share their celebration and their passion and invite members of the community to join them.

Anne Caine, President of the Canberra District Wine Industry Association said: "I am really looking forward to this year's harvest. We have had good rain leading up to Christmas and some long, hot days during January with more good rain fall. Every year the wine seems to improve throughout the District and this year promises to be no exception.

"The wineries in the District work toward improve on the past year and increase their festival activities. It is a great family day as well as an opportunity to try new wines and experiences," said Anne.

A brochure detailing all the festivities will be available on the website at [www.canberrawines.com.au](http://www.canberrawines.com.au) from 16<sup>th</sup> February.

For more information please call Anne Caine on 02 6295 6640.