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Shoalhaven Coast Wine Region looks to a bumper 2009 vintage

2 January 2009 – The Shoalhaven Coast wine region welcomed in 2009 reporting in one of the most promising vintages in recent memory.

Commenting on the season to date, Rajarshi Ray, President of the Shoalhaven Coast Wine Association said “All growers in the region are reporting a very strong vintage for 2009. While there is still some time to go – most growers are saying that it is the most promising vintage for many years”

“The Shoalhaven Coast wine region is less than two hours from Sydney and a hidden Australian gem. The 18 wineries, vineyards and cellar doors that extend from Kiama down to Milton boast over 1000 medals and trophies between them”.

“Increasing numbers of Sydney and Canberra based wine lovers and tourists are making the Shoalhaven Coast a must stop on their wine trail” citing the 50% increase in Wine Festival visitors in 2008. “A good vintage is crucial to increasing tourist visits to the region, and the community benefits associated with increased local employment opportunities and capital investment”.

Shayne Bricker, owner of Two Figs Winery at Nowra said “We are thrilled with the progress of our vintage, and are looking forward to a bumper crop this year. Not only are the yields looking very sound, but the quality for which this region is becoming known for appears to have improved again this year”.

Further south, Rosie Cupitt, proprietor of the award winning ‘Cupitts Winery and Vineyard Kitchen’ also agreed “After a few quiet seasons, 2008/09 is shaping up to be a banner year for Shoalhaven Coast wineries, and visitors should expect to taste amazing award winning wines in the coming years”.

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About Shoalhaven Coast Wine Region

The Shoalhaven Coast is Australia’s 95th declared wine region, although it is also one of the oldest grape growing regions tracing it’s history to the early 1800’s. Now comprising over 20 grape growers and 18 accompany wineries and cellar doors, it is one of the fastest growing and awarded wine regions having gathered more than 1,000 medals and trophies. For more information about Shoalhaven Coast Wine Region, visit the worldwide web site at <http://www.shoalhavencoast.com.au>

About Two Figs Winery

Situated at the corner of Bolong Road and Back Forest Road, Nowra Two Figs Winery boasts some of the vest views on the Shoalhaven Coast as well as award winning wines. Open 7 days a week
10.00AM – 5.00PM +61 2 4448 5003

About Cupitts Winery

Located on Washburton Road, Milton Cupitts Winery is one of the premier venue for ‘foodies’ on the South Coast. Boasting food and wine in the tradition of ‘Slow Food’ guests enjoy wine tasting and food in the restored 1851 historic cottage. Open 7 days a week 11.00AM – 5.00PM +61 2 4455 7888

For further media information please contact Rajarshi Ray, President Shoalhaven Coast Wine Industry Association on 02 4448 6082 or Linda Marquis, SCWIA Co-ordinator at marquis@southernphone.com.au