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### 2016 vintage showing great potential

Stockman's Ridge has released two new wines in the lead up to the 2016 vintage, including its triple trophy winning Shiraz. The new wines are the **2014 Stockman's Ridge 'Rider' Shiraz** (\$23) and the **2014 Stockman's Ridge 'Rider' Pinot Noir** (\$23).

"The 2016 vintage is unfolding well with excellent colour and flavour development. The bitterly cold winter, with a number of substantial snowfalls, increased moisture in our water storing clay loam soils. Bountiful sunshine and warm conditions with heavy rain in December and January are leading to a very promising 2016 vintage," explained owner and vigneron, Jonathan Hambrook.

"All of our varieties are progressing well, from the sauvignon blanc and chardonnay through to shiraz. The yields are also encouraging with good bunch weights. The region's natural acidity is evident and, with the fruit undergoing veraison, we're confident that the flavours will follow.

"We should begin harvesting towards the end of February," continued Jonathan. "If the weather continues as it has, with the mild days, then ripening should be perfect.

"So far there has been no disease and so the management of the vineyard has certainly been less stressful. We'll be keeping a close eye on the fruit development and canopy management due to the wet forecasts."

The trophy winning 2014 Stockman's Ridge 'Rider' Shiraz was made from grapes grown on vineyards planted in 1996, situated on the north-west slopes of Mount Canobolas at an elevation of around 800 metres. The vintage was characterised by small berries and low yields, resulting in lovely concentration of flavours in the wines.

The family owned Stockman's Ridge has grown substantially since its inception in 2004. In a dozen years, the business has increased its vineyards plantings and opened a cellar door and gardens in Orange, with facilities built to host weddings and functions.

**2014 Stockman's Ridge 'Rider' Shiraz** \$23.00

Trophy, Best Wine of Show, 2015 Australian Highlands Wine Show  
Trophy, Best Red Wine of Show, 2015 Australian Highlands Wine Show  
Trophy, Best Shiraz of Show, 2015 Australian Highlands Wine Show  
Gold Medal, Class 24, 2015 Australian Highlands Wine Show

**2014 Stockman's Ridge 'Rider' Pinot Noir** \$23.00

**Pricing and distribution:** The Stockman's Ridge wines are distributed by the winery and in ACT/NSW South by Regional Wine & Beverage Merchants and are available online at [www.stockmansridge.com.au](http://www.stockmansridge.com.au)

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*Stockman's Ridge Wines was established in 2002 when Jonathan Hambrook purchased the property, located 20 km north of Bathurst and in 2004 and 2005 planted Shiraz, Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, Savagnin and Tempranillo. In 2012 the business expanded with the purchase of land and planting of vines on Boree Lane in Orange. The Cellar Door was opened in 2013 and is open Thursday to Monday, offering tastings and sales within one of the region's most picturesque settings. The cellar door and gardens are also available for weddings and functions.*