



Inform. Inspire. Connect.

EMBRACING CHANGE & SUSTAINING GROWTH

28 August 2025



The Programme

8.00am

REGISTRATION

08.30am

MORNING SESSIONS

Embracing Change

Forum Opening

*Hon Todd McClay - Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Forestry,
Minister for Trade and Investment and Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs*

The Wine Shift: Turning Change Into Opportunity

Lulie Halstead - Founder and former CEO, Wine Intelligence

Falling Sales, Growing Challenges: Rising to the Occasion?

Rob McMillan - Silicon Valley Bank, Wine Division

10:20am

MORNING TEA BREAK

Embracing Asia, The Future of its Wine Markets

Natalie Wang - Hong Kong-based Wine Journalist

Wine in the Digital World - The DTC Opportunity

Benjamin Gibson, Founder and CEO of Winehub.io

Consumer Connection: Using AI To Create Opportunities

Kathryn Topp, Yabble CEO

12:30pm

LUNCH BREAK

1:30pm

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

Sustaining Growth

Young Viticulturist of the Year Speeches

Contestants for Young Viticulturist of the Year 2025 take to the stage to deliver their topical speech. Following the competition at Greystone, this is the last of their challenges before the national winner will be announced at the dinner this evening.

Sustainability - Do Consumers and Retailers really Care?

*Meagan Littlejohn – Programme Manager – Sustainable Winegrowing NZ,
featuring Barry Dick MW – Waitrose*

What's the payback on sustainability credentials?

Belinda Jackson - Sales and Marketing Manager of Lawson's Dry Hills

New Zealand's Sustainable Future - How our green reputation on the global stage stacks up in our key export markets. What do our markets of the future look like?

David Downs, CEO of New Zealand Story

Closing Remarks

NETWORKING

4:00pm

An opportunity for participants to reflect and collaborate on the day's presentations, network with your peers and presenters, and engage over casual drink

Te Pae Convention Centre | Ōtautahi Christchurch

Thursday 28 August 2025

Please note the programme is subject to change