



Naracoorte Lucindale Council

Naracoorte Caves Trail

STOP 4

Limestone landscapes provide fertile ground for winegrowing.

You are now standing in the award-winning Wrattenbully Wine Region. The secret to its success is the fertile Terra Rossa soil, which formed when wind-driven sediments and organic material were laid down over the limestone. Underground water quenches the vines, drawn from the unconfined aquifer deep beneath the land surface.

Wrattenbully Wine Region is home to 50 wine growers and 20 producers who manage around 2,600 hectares of vineyards. Sustainability is at the core of viticulture practice in the region. Vignerons strive to manage the fragile balance between their industry and the rich natural resources in the region. This approach extends to the preservation of Naracoorte's underground wonders.

Many caves have been discovered during vineyard preparation and some of these contain significant fossil deposits. Scientists and landowners work together to protect and study these sites. Each new cave adds another piece to the puzzle and expands our understanding of Naracoorte's fascinating past.

You may be wondering what those giant fans are doing in the middle of a vineyard? They are frost fans and are used to protect the vines from damage during freezing cold nights.



The rich red Terra Rossa soil overlies the limestone in several areas around Naracoorte. Here it fills solution pipes that form in the limestone.
Source: Steven Bourne.



Vineyard near Naracoorte Caves.
Source: Steven Bourne.

