



# TOURISM

*I am pleased to introduce Lucy Golding from Golding Wines near Lobethal*

**BN:** Welcome Lucy, please can we have a snapshot of your early years, where you were born, went to school, your early plans and aspirations?

**LG:** I was born in Port Lincoln on the lower Eyre Peninsula and grew up there, attending the local primary and high schools before heading over to Adelaide to go to boarding school for year 11 and 12.

Even though I didn't return to Pt. Lincoln to live full time after I started uni, I still consider it to be home. I feel very lucky to have a home base in the Adelaide Hills and a sentimental home on the West Coast, it is the best of both worlds!

There is so much natural beauty attached to both locations.

When I was younger I wanted to be an artist, more specifically a book illustrator.

I loved to read and I was quite creative so I thought that would be a dream job!

As I got a bit older and started high school I realised I also loved history, politics and economics so when it came to making a decision about what to study at uni the more academic side of me overruled the creative side and I started a general Arts degree with the idea of maybe becoming a journalist or lawyer.

It didn't last long though, I was back studying visual arts within two years and eventually started a degree in Interior Architecture which ended up being my perfect scenario, using my creative skills within a professional career.

I left the architecture and design field after starting a family, which was the same time Darren and I launched our wine label so I have focussed on our family business since then.

**BN:** Please can you elaborate on your diverse range of experiences and products including NIDO and recovery update after bushfires?

**LG:** We do have a diverse range of wine experiences at Golding Wines, we pride ourselves on being innovative and creative in the way that we approach wine tourism and we are always looking to offer visitors something unique to experience.

We run our Wine Safari walking wine tours offering people a chance to taste our wines out in the vines at different scenic locations around our Western Branch property.

We offer a range of wine flights in our Tasting Room and

until the fire burnt out our property we had our Nido Experience. This was a food and wine experience for small groups within in a hand woven willow 'nest' located in a secluded spot of bush and offering gorgeous views out over the Adelaide Hills. Unfortunately when the fire came through the nest was burnt out and we have not been able to offer our Nido Experience to visitors.

This coming winter though, we will be reweaving the nest and our Nido Experience will be back in spring!

Rejuvenation on our property has been really encouraging; especially after the summer rain we received after the fire.

Unfortunately 95% of our vineyard was also damaged, the vines will take longer to recover, as we need to cut them low to the ground and restrain the new growth after replacing all of the trellis. It is a big job and it will take a few years but we are up for the challenge.

**BN:** If you have visiting friends or relatives and you want to give them a memorable Adelaide Hills day, what do you recommend?

**LG:** We are certainly spoiled for choice up here when it comes to places to recommend!

Of course there would always be a range of cellar doors on that list but if we are talking non-wine related activities I'd also suggest a visit to the Mt Lofty Botanic Gardens, a fossick in the second hand shops in Woodside or a ride along the Amy Gillet bike track.

If it was a market day I'd definitely recommend a morning in the Stirling or Woodside markets and then something to eat and drink at one of the many cafes or pubs, I love Emma & Ivy in Lobethal and The Crafers Hotel... oops back to food and wine again!

**BN:** What do you think is the most significant tourism opportunity waiting to be realised in the Adelaide Hills?

**LG:** I think there is room for a more diverse range of accommodation options in the Hills in locations that are a bit further afield than the main tourist towns.



**BN:** Please share any other key interests/activities that might surprise us!

**LG:** I love dogs, I'm a bit of a crazy plant lady, I love cooking and I love the buzz you get when you throw caution to the wind and have a sing with a large group of people.

If you ever get the chance to participate in Pub Choir (they visited Adelaide for the Cabaret Fest in 2019) do it!

Look them up on Facebook, their videos are amazing.

**BN:** What advice would you give a young person in respect to finding the right career and to have an enriching life?

**LG:** Don't stress if you don't know exactly what you want to do when you leave school, as you can see from my answer to the first question, I took my time to work that out but I eventually got there!

Whatever skills you pick up along the way, whether it is through study, part time work or even travel, they are all contributing to a unique set of capabilities that belong to you and you alone.

Look at every opportunity that comes your way as a chance to add to those skills and eventually you will find your thing.

I often say to my own kids: don't be afraid of being someone different, be afraid of being the same as everyone else. Your individuality is your greatest asset.

*Thanks Lucy for giving us the opportunity to get to know you and Golding Wines better. Well known for weddings, Golding Wines are a crowd favourite for a range of events including CRUSH and WINTER REDS*