

# VINTAGE

*Stay Safe  
This Season*

## ESSENTIAL COMPLIANCE & LOAD TIPS

The NHVR Wine Industry Code of Practice supports grape and wine supply-chain safety under the HVNL. It's of utmost importance to understand your role in the Chain of Responsibility and always, especially during vintage, prioritise Ag vehicle travel regulations, fatigue management and risk monitoring.

### NHVR MONITORING

The NHVR deploys mobile ANPR camera devices to help monitor compliance of heavy vehicles in high-risk areas.

### MINIMISING GRAPE SPILLAGE

To reduce the risk of grape spillages on public roads, guidance in the NHVR Wine Industry Code of Practice highlights your system may include:

- Engaging a transport operator experienced in moving wine grapes and understanding how grapes behave in transit.
- Growers and contractors knowing the correct fill level for each type of bin or truck.
- Understanding how variety and picking method affect juiciness and adjusting fill levels accordingly.
- Using lids on grape bins where appropriate.
- Educating vineyard workers on correct filling practices.
- Using strapping and baffles for tip trailers to secure grapes, ensure sides are up & latched.

### FATIGUE RISK MANAGEMENT

All parties within the Chain of Responsibility must do what is reasonably practicable to eliminate or minimise public risk, including fatigue risks arising from scheduling and site operations.

#### Growers & Harvest Contractors

- Plan loading and pick-up times realistically. Avoid long waits at the vineyard.
- Share accurate load details early so drivers can plan properly.
- Don't pressure anyone to meet unrealistic timeframes.

#### Drivers & Transport Companies

- Schedules to allow proper rest and monitor compliance.
- Drivers should not drive tired. Stick to work/rest limits and keep records up to date.
- Speak up if you're delayed or feeling fatigued.

#### Winery Intake

- Take all reasonable steps to avoid congestion and reduce bottlenecks.
- Update growers and drivers quickly if schedules change.
- Ensure requests do not cause fatigue breaches.



**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN  
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Images: examples of ANPR camera capture of non-compliant loads with risk of grape spillage. Left: the tipper trailer's side is down. Right: multiple bins at risk of exceeding the safe fill-point.



## QUICK REFERENCES

*Note - Always refer back to the National Class 1 Ag Vehicle Operator's Guide when planning routes into different zones, see links to the Guide and Zone Map below.*

### Warning Devices:

- Flags > 2.5m wide
- Lights/Beacons > 3m (day) / > 2.5m (night)
- Signs > 2.5m wide or > 22m long

### Night Travel Dimension Limits:

Zone 2 (Adelaide Hills): 3.7m wide x 19m long – 2 pilots

Zone 5 (Country SA): 4.0m wide x 25m long – 1 pilot at rear

### Piloting:

Base rule by width

- Width  $\leq$  3.7m  $\rightarrow$  No pilot required

Major roads (highways/arterials)

- >3.7–4.5m  $\rightarrow$  1 pilot
- >4.5m  $\rightarrow$  2 pilots

Minor roads (local/rural) and visibility of approaching traffic

- >3.7–4.5m
  - Clear view  $\geq$  500m  $\rightarrow$  0 pilots
  - Clear view < 500m  $\rightarrow$  1 pilot
- >4.5m
  - Clear view  $\geq$  500m  $\rightarrow$  1 pilot
  - Clear view < 500m  $\rightarrow$  2 pilots

Positioning

- Where 1 pilot vehicle is required, the pilot vehicle must travel:
  - behind the heavy vehicle on a divided road; or
  - in front of the heavy vehicle on an undivided road.
- Where 2 pilot vehicles are required, the pilot vehicle must travel:
  - one at the front and one at the rear
- Override (applies regardless of minimum base rule by width, road type or visibility)
  - Any agricultural vehicle towing a tow mass ratio > 1:1.2 and the signed speed limit.  $\geq$  80 km/h  $\rightarrow$  1 pilot required.
- Pilot vehicle warning devices
  - roof sign
  - amber flashing light



## RESOURCES

- [NHVR Wine Industry Code of Practice](#)
- [National Class 1 Agricultural Vehicle Operator's Guide](#)
- [Agricultural Heavy Vehicle Zone Map](#)
- [National Heavy Vehicle Inspection Manual \(NHVIM\)](#)
- [Load Restraint Guide | NHVR](#)
- [Mass and Dimension](#)
- [Chain of Responsibility \(CoR\)](#)
- [Record Keeping Requirements](#)
- [The Heavy Vehicle Confidential Reporting Line \(HVCRL\)](#), : 1800 931 785

