

PINOT NOIR

Widely considered the most difficult grape to grow and get right. When on song, Pinot Noir produces some of the finest wines in the world. Filled with ethereal beauty, mystery & charm.

Pinot Noir's spiritual home is Burgundy, France where the wines can often be breathtaking, but places such as New Zealand, USA and Australia are producing world class pinots. Pinot Noir is a component in many of the greatest Champagnes.

- 2016 Fikkers Pinot Meunier** (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **48**
 Anthony Fikkers makes self-confessedly "smashable" wines. This, his 2016 Pinot Meunier, is just that. Blueberries, mulberries, hints of herbaceous flora and exotic spices. Pretty punchy on the nose with some real character. Glides along with sweet and spicy fruit, a tail of soft tannin trailing behind. Certainly Smashable.
- 2015 Boya Pinot Noir** (Leyda Valley, Chile) **63**
 The Produced by Francisco Ponce Sanhueza Boya Pinot Noir has a fruit-driven profile with aromas of strawberries, raspberries and mild sour cherries. Light and refreshing, it has a light-bodied palate and just enough acidity. Well balanced, clean and expressive.
- 2016 Save our Souls Pinot Noir** (Mornington Peninsula, Victoria) ~ **59**
 The divine combination of William Downie (De Bortoli and now his own label) and Jason Searle has resulted in this purposefully affordable and definitely excellent Pinot Noir by Save Our Souls. A light and delicate red wine, there are flavours of redcurrant and cranberry with a little oakiness.
- 2015 Provenance Pinot Noir** (Golden Plains, Victoria) ~ **64**
 Winemakers Scott Ireland and Sam Vogel have blended fruit from three different plots in Victoria Darriwill, Sinclair and Henty, to achieve a thoroughly attractive Pinot Noir. A fragrant bouquet followed by a juicy palate of red cherry, plum and spice, the finish with a slight twist of citrus.
- 2013 Micheal Hall Sang di Pigon Pinot Noir** (Adelaide Hills, Victoria) **76**
 Sang de Pigeon (Pigeon's Blood) is a nod to Micheal Hall's former life as a jewellery valuer. It's the trade term for the colour of the finest rubies. 77% destined to open fermenter and 23% whole bunch barrel fermented, pressed to barrel, 11 months in French Oak. Light red fruits with some soft savoury tones. Super quaffable.
- 2016 Telera Pinot Noir** (Mornington Peninsula, Victoria) **110**
 Everything about this vintage was favourable, flowering, fruit set, intermittent rain and steady ripening season produced simply stunning fruit from a very happy healthy Vinyard. Expect complexity, richness, structure and balance in spades. Su Mar is made from a clonal blend of estate-grown handpicked grapes. It's wild fermented in an open vat, and pressed and aged for 12 months in selected French oak. An alluring wine of spice, berry and savoury intensity, with a balanced and silky finish.
- 2013 Paringa Estate "Estate"** (Mornington Peninsula, Victoria) **165**
 Paringa is one of Australia's best and most consistent Pinot producers. This wine has complex lifted aromas of red fruit/ dark cherries supported by spicy savoury oak. The palate has attractive spicy dark cherry flavours, fine grained tannins that combine to produce a lovely textural mouthful. The poise & balance of this wine make it one of our favourites.
- 2012 Craggy Range Aroha** (Martinborough, New Zealand) **198**
 The 98/100 scoring 5 star Aroha is quite a savoury Pinot with hints of brambles, toast, dried herbs and yeast extract together with dark berry, plum and a distinctive floral note. Very complex wine with a very silken texture.
 This is a world class wine and far better than most Burgundy at the same price...
- 2013 Ten Minutes By Tractor McCutcheon Single Vineyard** (Mornington Peninsula, Victoria) **159**
2013 Ten Minutes By Tractor Wallis Single Vineyard (Mornington Peninsula, Victoria) **159**
 The devotion to detail in every way, from the vineyard management, the wine making process to bottling, labelling and marketing of the wines was exemplary in every way. This winery remains one of the absolute stars of the Victorian wine scene. The **2013 McCutcheon** is lightish in colour with three parts savoury, one part pretty, the combined effect irresistible. It tastes mostly of crushed dry leaves, woody spices, smoky oak and foresty notes, though a sweet, strawberry exuberance keeps the mood chipper. The **2013 Wallis** is satiny and delicious with brilliant extension of flavour. Style and substance. Sweet-sour berries, crushed dry spices, wood smoke and undergrowthy/foresty notes. It starts well and gets better and better.
- 2013 Bindi Block 5** (Macedon Ranges, Victoria) **179**
2012 Bindi Block 5 (Macedon Ranges, Victoria) **195**
2011 Bindi Block 5 (Macedon Ranges, Victoria) **212**
2013 Bindi Original Vineyard (Macedon Ranges, Victoria) **159**

Michael Dhillon continues to fashion exceptional wines from his small parcel of land a short drive from here. As always his wines have extraordinary depth, complexity & weight. High in demand these wines sell out upon release. The Composition and Dixon are the most approachable even at their young ages. They both have delicate perfume & silky palates. The Original Vineyard is just classic textbook varietal Macedon Pinot. The Block 5 has more fruit power & tannin and often requires more time to develop the same delicacies as the others.



TEMPRANILLO

The savory red wines of Spain are brooding and complex. They are typically a little lighter than a Australian Shiraz or Cabernet, but richer and fuller than a Pinot Noir.

The most commonly used red grapes in Spain are the lovely Tempranillo grape which we adore. Producing medium to full bodied wines that can display great savoury characteristics and in general this Spanish variety makes wines that are extremely food friendly.

- 2013 Mr Mick** (Clare Valley, South Australia) **43**
Crafted in typical Mr Mick style, this wine has subtle French oak flavours with smooth tannins, distinctive varietal character of cherries and strawberries, a hint of spice, cola and a long lingering finish. Super easy drinking and spot on with a steak.
- 2014 Radio Boka** (Valencia, Spain) **44**
Brilliant entry level Tempranillo with dusty cherry-cola nose and a truly slurpable palate of soft fleshy raspberries, melted chocolate and touches of Indian spice market thrown in for good measure. Brilliant everyday wine.
- 2015 Simao & Co** (Rutherglen) **61**
Simon Killeen, formerly of Stanton & Killeen, has decided to go out on his own and launch his own wine brand. It's a brave step but he's taken to it like a duck to water. Simão (Portuguese for Simon) & Co. is his vessel for telling the story of the region. In what is only a matter of months since the first release of a Simão & Co. wine, he has taken the wine trade by storm. Hot, whole berry ferment, 30% new oak barriques with some stored in tank. A ripping tempranillo with light tannin structure, almost cabernet-esque. Super food friendly
- 2015 Pondalowie "MT"** (Bendigo, Victoria) **63**
This '15 is glorious with its enticing inky red colour. It's fragrant, all dark red cherry and Satsuma plum fruit, and earthy with that distinct and delectable tempranillo sarsaparilla character. This is the first vintage of the MT has been matured in oak barrels. A classic loaded with clove & nutmeg spices with grainy, powerful, earthy tannins. A great local expression.
- 2007 Dehesa La Granja** (Castilla y Leon, Spain) **78**
2002 Dehesa La Granja "Seleccion" ~ (Castilla y Leon, Spain) **119**
Time honoured cellar maturation is key to the 2002's detailed and complex bottle-aged style. With age, as the tannins melt, Fernández's Selección become deliciously mellow & tender, with a deep, velvety texture and flavours of ripe plums, smoky oak, truffle & roasted meat. Supremely elegant, round and complex with plenty of old school going on. The 2007 is brilliant ruby with smoke & spice accented aromas of redcurrant & cherry with a hint of vanilla in the background. Juicy & focused on the palate, offering lively red fruit flavors that become sweeter with air.

Age appears to be best in four things: old wood best to burn, old wine to drink, old friends to trust, and old authors to read.

-Francis Bacon

OTHER RED VARIETALS

This section is devoted to some of the lesser known varieties & blends from Victoria & around the world. Often the best value wines on our list can be found in this section of our winelist.

- 2013 Besame Mucho** Monastrell / Shiraz (Yecla, Spain) **36**
 Medium purple in colour, it sports an expressive nose of juicy strawberries and sweet cherries. The fruit is pure and luscious with a feeling of layers of ripeness rippling over the tongue. Great concentration and explosive fruity flavours.
- 2014 Glenwillow** Nebbiolo (Bendigo, Victoria) **49**
 The Yandoit Valley is situated between historical Castlemaine and cosmopolitan Daylesford, about 40kms drive from here. This is a distinctly Australian version of Italian Nebbiolo style. It is medium-bodied wine perfect for lunch and all day sipping as well as paired with lighter red meat dishes. The palate is long and rich with subtle floral and savoury flavours and a hint of red cherry. There are fine grained tannins and a great acid structure.
- 2016 Ique** Malbec (Mendoza, Argentina) **52**
 IQUE 'ee-kay' is a rich, full bodied Argentinian Malbec, full of purple plum and dark cherry fruit with light smoky overtones. A heart warming wine, with gentle tannins, a perfect introduction to Malbec.
- 2011 La Purisima En Esencia Dulce** Monastrell (Yecla, Spain) **78**
 Smells of blueberry and cowhide, with lovely spice and sweet, supple ripe tannins. Fresh finish with good acidity. Great balance. 13% alcohol, and 70 grams/litre residual sugar, so there is a definite richness and succulence in every glass.
- 2015 Spinifex Esprit** Mataro, Grenache, Shiraz, Cinsault (Barossa Valley, South Australia) **57**
 Predominantly Grenache (91%) with Mataro (7%) and Cinsault (2%). Sourced from old vineyards on the northern, western and eastern edges of the Barossa Valley. All vineyards are hand harvested, whole bunch inclusion averaged 45% light lees in seasoned demi-muid, foudres and stainless steel. Bottled without filtration. Bright and ruby hued. Perfumed aromatics. A awesome expression of grenache, rose water, lavender honey, white pepper, lilies, fresh cherries, cassis and raspberries. Subtle base notes of hazel nuts and black tea. Striking yet delicate.
- 2013 Syrahmi** Mourvedre (Heathcote, Victoria) **79**
 Bright dark raspberry red in colour the perfumed nose of ripe berry fruits, with dried herbs, savory turned earth spice and a meaty small goods character. Soft sweet entry & long mid palate make way for velvet like fine tannins.
- 2015 Daniel Bouland Morgon** Gamay (Beaujolais, France) **93**
 Daniel Bouland makes some of the most old school and expressive wines in the whole of Beaujolais. Hand harvested from very old, organically-tended Gamay vines in the Morgon lieux-dits of Douby, Côte de Py and Delys, the Bouland wines are defiantly deep, dark, country-style reds with plenty of grip and overflowing with personality. These are wines that are built for the long haul, unlike so many of the region's wines. Nothing is sweetened and nothing is taken away from the raw, visceral goodness of the juice. Hand-harvesting, very low yields, old wood, wild yeast fermentations, 100% whole bunch (open) ferments and non filtration, places him very much in the back-to-basics-dirt-under-the-fingernails camp. Do yourself a favour and acquaint yourself with my favourite wine of this year.
- 2015 Sorrenberg** Gamay (Beechworth, Victoria) **107**
 The nose of the 2015 Gamay presents with cherry and forest fruits. Following on to the palate which at first appears light but surprises you with vibrant fruit combining with white pepper to produce a long lingering mouthfeel. Soft acid and refined tannins round this wine out nicely.
- 2005 Marcarini La Serra Barolo** Nebbiolo (Piedmont, Italy) **210**
 Deep and earthy with lightly smoky liquor of wild raspberry, poppy seeds, fine floral notes, orange rind, herbal & fresh. It is lean & crisp, juicy fruit has a lovely herbal character, fine tannins, very well balanced in the mouth. Great length to the sour cherry and slightly gamey fruit. Generous and rich with an intense, ethereal bouquet.
- 2008 Mauro Veglio Barolo Arborina** Nebbiolo (Piedmont, Italy) **182**
2009 Mauro Veglio Barolo DOGC Nebbiolo (Piedmont, Italy) **159**
2010 Mauro Veglio Barolo DOGC Nebbiolo (Piedmont, Italy) **175**
2010 Mauro Veglio Barolo Arborina Nebbiolo (Piedmont, Italy) **193**

The **Mauro Veglio** family has been growing grapes for generations. In 1992 they decided to stop on-selling their grapes to concentrate on making their own wine - and in 20 years they have become one of the leaders in Piedmont. The **2008 and 2010 Arborina's** are Ruby red coloured with garnet reflections, fresh scents of small red fruits, raspberry, redcurrant and wild roses that evolve into licorice and spice notes. Very complex and extremely delicate at same time, it shows all the elegance of La Morra terroir. When the wine first enters the market it is fresh and a little austere, but still harmonious and balanced. With time the wine softens a little, but maintains the initial character for many years, particularly if stored in an ambient place that is fresh and humid without temperature variations. The 2010 is a powerfully built wine that is still tightly wound. The **2009 and 2010 DOGC Barolo's** both have fresh scents of small red fruits, raspberry, redcurrant and wild roses that evolve into licorice and spice notes. Classic tar compounds drive the wines along..and whist the 2009 is currently singing, the 2010 is still quit firm and tannic. Delicious wine.

SHIRAZ

Blessed with a Mediterranean climate, Central Victoria excels with big, bold and bright red wines. Most vineyards in the region have significant planting of Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon, but it is the Shiraz that usually sticks in the minds of wine lovers. Known for their concentration and effortless ripe fruit flavours, the region produces some of the countries best red wines. Try one today!

2011 Pyren Vineyard Broken Quartz (Pyrenees, Victoria) **37**

Crozes-esque white pepper, to super low alcohol and high acidity. Yet, clearly, in amongst the difficult vintage there was clearly rigorous selection. Instead it is light, pretty, stony, peppery and a little herbal – yet still quite beguiling. Sure there are sharp edges, but the mid palate is juicy and generous. Amazingly generous really. Stunning value.

2015 Luke Lambert Crudo Shiraz (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **52**

Crudo is crafted in a pretty similar way to Lamberts Syrah, but with less whole bunch (20% here) and shorter time on skins, followed by early bottling to secure the wine's animated primary fruit. Expect cherrystone and summer berry flavours

2012 Turners Crossing Shiraz Viognier (Bendigo, Victoria) **54**

This has a medium red purple hue with great aromatics of cherry and mulberry, the pallet shows spice, white pepper, blackberry and a hint of pink musk stick. The tannin is beautifully integrated and delivers great length & mouth feel.

2014 Santa & D'Sas (Heathcote, Victoria) **62**

Wonderful fruity and forward powerhouse from a new player in the Heathcote region. Big powerful and punchy in style with calssic shiraz fruit and a mild tannic finish.

2014 Yangarra Estate (McLaren Vale, South Australia) **64**

Yangarra Estate is a biodynamic wine farm in the McLaren Vale devoted solely to producing wines from the best grape varieties of the southern Rhone. Shiraz from the Yangarra estate vineyard adopts a cooler climate expression than the typical McLaren Vale style, thanks to the vineyard's elevation and cooling night breezes from the nearby Southern Ranges. Lots of violet aromas, with fresh cherries, plums and figs, with a soft and juicy palate and fine tannins.

2009 Domaine Clusel-Roch Cote-Rotie (Northern Rhone Valley, France) **149**

Their most prized wine comes from a small, .7 hectare plot of old Cote Rotie vines. These old vines were planted in 1935 by Gilbert's grandfather. Their Cote Rotie uses 4% Viognier. The wine is vinified in a combination of concrete & steel vats. The Cote Rotie spends close to 2 years in oak; 20% new. Remaining barrels range from 1 to 5yrs old year.

2014 Micheal Hall Stone Well (Barossa Valley, South Australia) **94**

2014 Micheal Hall Flaxman Valley (Barossa Valley, South Australia) **102**

A study in terroir. As you drink a bottle of wine you not only enjoy the toil of the winemakers and farmers that have collaborated together to bring the grapes to harvest, but also the soil and weather conditions in and around the vineyard. These two wines by Michael Hall are an excellent example of this. Both wines are made by the same winemaker in the same style, fruit picked for both at optimum time (March 4 for the Stone Well and April 4 for the Flaxman's Valley). These wines both enjoyed fair winter rains; a warm first week of September promoted early budburst, a hot summer was broken by rain mid-February and cool temperatures thereafter. All destemmed, fermented in closed puncheon and open fermenter. Matured in French oak. **The Flaxman's Valley** exhibits sour plum and soy, pepper and dried fennel and chalky iodine minerality. Whilst the **Stone Well** shows fresh plum, black cherry and blackberry, leather and cedar, talcy tannins.

2012 Warrenmang Black Puma (Pyrenees, Victoria) ~ **109**

True to Warrenmang's philosophy of traditional wine making, the grapes are hang picked from low yield vines, then hand plunged twice daily on skins and basket pressed. Matured for over 30 months in French oak at the Avoca property on which legend tells of the large black cat still roams to this day.

2006 Jasper Hill Emily's Paddock Shiraz Cabernet Franc (Heathcote, Victoria) **220**

2003 Jasper Hill Georgia's Paddock (Heathcote, Victoria) **191**

2005 Jasper Hill Georgia's Paddock (Heathcote, Victoria) **182**

The **2006 Emily's** is searingly intense and firm with dark, minty and brambly flavours of cassis, blackberries and plums backed by suggestions of dark chocolate, mint, menthol, vanilla and cedar. Its polished and refined. The **2003** exhibits an inky/blue/purple color along with a big, sweet nose of lead pencil shavings interwoven with charcoal, blackberries, cassis, licorice, and a touch of oak. The **2005** is powerfully built with deep rooted fruit, black berry fruits, black & white pepper and a slight vanilla edge.

2008 Syrahmi "La La" (Heathcote, Victoria) **195**

Young gun ex-bendigo winemaker has hand crafted this extraordinary wine. The **La La** is a single vineyard wine from a brilliant vintage that spends 36 months in new French Oak and a further 2 years in bottle before being released. It initially offers smoky bacon fat, violets, sweet raspberries and licorice. Upon opening up it reveals Asian spices, dried herbs and further meaty nuances. A seamless and velvety palate with a long lingering finish. It received a massive 96/100 from James Halliday recently and he considered it to be the equal best Australian Shiraz released that year. At less than a third the price of Penfolds Grange this is a truly amazing local wine. 600 bottles made.

CABERNET SAUVIGNON & FRIENDS

The king of the red wine world. Worshipped in England, France and America, Cabernet tends to play second fiddle to Shiraz in Australia.

In Australia the grape is often blended with Merlot to add softness or as a sole varietal, which may take several years of ageing to soften. In France the grape is usually blended with a combination of Merlot, Petit Verdot, Cabernet Franc & Malbec. Shiraz generally has red berry flavours, Cabernet often shows black berry flavours.

- 2015 Jamsheed** La Menace Rouge (Yarra Valley, Victoria) ~ **49**
A switch up in vineyard source this year; 2013 is 100% Cabernet drawn from the Yarra's Fundar vineyard. Handpicked and destemmed, fermented as whole berries with indigenous yeasts in stainless tanks and left to on skins for 40 days extended maceration. Dark fruited with a drinkable lightness and savoury spice, it's a quintessential Jamsheed wine that truly expresses the soil with class-leading flair. La Menace Rouge or "The Red Menace" is winemaker Gary Mills' reference to both the Cabernet grape and his dearly departed dog Rocket.
- 2012 Warrenmang GP** (Pyrenees, Victoria) **69**
A well balanced blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Shiraz, each variety fermented and pressed separately, and aged for up to 24 months on French and American Oak. Light spice with a dry finish. Super food friendly and one of our favourites.
- 2015 Eden Hall** Springton (Eden Valley, South Australia) **46**
A pretty classic cool climate Cabernet Sauvignon out of the Barossa ranges. A bright purple-crimson colour, red cherry fruit, savoury spice and something akin to confection on the nose followed up by juicy black fruit on the palate with that cabernet grip.
- 2006 Grand Puy Lacoste** 5eme Cru (Pauillac, Bordeaux, France) **198**
A simply stunning expression of Pauillac (East Bank) Bordeaux full of blackcurrant, cassis, cigar box and some earthy characteristics. Softening full bodied and tannic structure.

"Age appears best in four things: old wood to burn, old wine to drink, old friends to trust and old authors to read."

-Francis Bacon