

# WHITE WINE

- 2017 Bress Riesling** Riesling (Harcourt, Victoria) **68**  
One of my local favourites, Vibrant colour with exotic aromas of orange rind, ginger. The palate is off-dry, offering fruit generosity on entry, with plenty of texture and savoury complexity a feature on the long, blanched finish.
- 2016 Santa & Dsas Reno (1500ml)** Riesling (King Valley, Victoria) **137**  
I love high acid riesling. I really can't put my finger on why but it's all I seem to be drinking of late. I'm sure that'll change as winter sets in and I start looking to Germany for a little residual sugar But for now this is way up my alley. Reno pours Pale straw in colour with a green tinge, lime and tangerine on the nose mirrored on the palate with great fruit intensity. Powerful varietal flavours of lime, orange citrus, and fresh rosemary are balanced by the refreshing natural acidity and crisp dry finish. Belting. It's only by the Magnum so might want to rope in some mates.
- 2017 Ravensworth** Riesling (Ravensworth, New South Wales) **62**  
There's no beating around the bush: this is a first rate riesling, its floral bouquet an instant come-on, followed by a riveting palate of lemon, lime and green apple fruit within the embrace of flinty/minerally acidity. Moreover, this is a wine bred to stay the distance. A lovely follow up to the beautiful 2015 Riesling. This is slightly more delicate with distinct florals, fennel spice and lemon zest aromas. As always the distinct acid framework lends itself to long cellaring but it tis a lovely, light zesty wine right now.
- 2015 Best's Foudre Ferment** Riesling (Great Western, Victoria) **75**  
Despite only being relatively new to the Best's stable, the release of the 2015 Foudre Ferment has become one of the highlights of the year, as the Riesling lovers swoon over this beguiling small batch wine. Now in its fourth year the resultant wine exhibits both the complexities of a barrel ferment and spontaneous fermentation without the overt oak flavour. Look out for honeyed aromatics of lychee, lemon curd and lime blossoms with a hint of toasted malt and ginger spice. On the palate, citrus and honey flavours dominate with a fine lingering texture of lemon curd, lime pith, dry biscuits and creamy acidity.
- N.V. Müller-Catoir** Riesling /Pinot Blanc (Pfalz, Germany) **74**  
From one of the premier wine estates along the length of the Rhine comes a wine I'm particularly excited about. It's very unusual to see this wine outside of Pfalz, in fact it took three years of convincing to have the Müller estate release this wine into the world. Mostly Riesling, with lesser amounts of Rieslaner, Scheurebe and Weissburgunder (Pinot Blanc) and coming entirely from the 2016 harvest. You won't find the vintage on the bottle as a Gutswein classification doesn't allow for the vintage to be stated. Better rope in some mates as it comes by the litre.
- 2016 Von Buhl Forster Trocken** Riesling (Pfalz, Germany) **109**  
Where do you go following twelve successful vintages as Bollinger chef de cave? In the case of Mathieu Kauffmann, you take up the post of head winemaker at iconic Von Buhl Estate in the Pfalz. First introduced in 2013, this village-level Riesling aims to reflect the village of Forst in general. Expect a textural Riesling tsunami of citrus pith, chamomile and saline notes and a long, vibrant, mineral close. An undeniable bargain.
- 2016 Müller-Catoir Trocken** Riesling (Pfalz, Germany) **87**  
Few German estates produce an entry Riesling of this depth and structure. This is a markedly succulent and crystalline Riesling with notes of ginger, ripe lemon and wet stone, intensely chalky length and almost salty bite. One for the true Riesling lovers out there.
- 2016 Robert Weil Trocken** Riesling (Rheingau, Germany) **117**  
I love Robert Weil Wines, I'm fairly certain that me and my regular wine drinking companions are responsible for last vintages scarcity in regional Victoria. The fruit for this 2015 was picked at Spätlese level, bringing remarkable depth that works beautifully to complement the wine's vibrant, crunchy acidity and mineral intensity. This may be Weil's first level wine but it is simply far too good to be called "entry level". Tasted blind you would be sure you were tasting a benchmark. Get in before I do.
- 2013 Gunderloch Als War ein Stuck von mir** Riesling (Rheinhessen, Germany) **98**  
**2013 Gunderloch Nierstein** Riesling (Rheinhessen, Germany) **85**  
The *Jean-Baptiste* has a fair lick of residual sugar, red-slate spice edges and nectarines. The palate is nice and precise, with a grey-slate minerality. The *Als War* has some skins and lees contact, is complex and harmonious. The *Nierstein 2013* is precise, lifted & direct with limey citrus aromas as well as a smoky rather than spicy minerality. Just a hint of florals above all of that. Linear, savoury & direct in the mouth.

- 2016 Lethbridge** Pinot Gris (Geelong, Victoria) **52**  
Tried this out at lunch with some mates in Geelong and it suck with me so much I had to grab a few for the shop. Beautiful blush copper in colour, the nose is fragrant and lifted with lots of spice and nutty barrel-derived complexity. Light and fresh on the palate, zesty with good acidity and fruit intensity, finishing clean and refreshing. Absolute belter. But get in quick. I won't let it last long.
- 2016 The Other Wine Co.** Pinot Gris (Adelaide Hills, South Australia) **61**  
It's not reinventing the wheel, it's just putting a bit of a spit shine on one. It's Adelaide Hills Pinot Gris produced in a fresh, crisp, vibrant and appealing-to-many style that says 'refreshing' in a clear way. It smells like pears apple and faint spice, drinkably juicy and crisp acidity. A two bottle wine if ever there was one.
- 2016 Livewire Wines** Viognier (on Skins) (Geelong, Victoria) **55**  
Ever bought something because you were so enamoured with how it was presented? Well This, I confesses what happened here. I saw a goon bag full of orange wine from a great winemaker with a big sticker of a hand flicking 'the bird' on the front and was on the phone soon after. Unfortunately they were out of bags so bottle it was. This wine is made from a white grape variety with an extended period of 6 weeks on skins, accentuating aromatic expression, while leaching some tannins and colour from the skins. phenolics serving as a gentle etching rather than a drying rasp, to the vivid apricot, ginger marmalade and cumquat spread across the intoxicating nose.
- 2016 Six Parallel South** Pinot Gris (on Skins) (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **59**  
Not your average Pinot Gris, For starters its lurid pink. Left on skins for texture and colour and boy is it gnarly. The closest I can liken it to is cranberry juice with a hint of spritz. Not at all like the other gris getting around but worth a crack if you want to try something a little funky. Adult fruit juice.
- 2016 Simao & Co** Ugni Blanc (Rutherglen) **61**  
Made from fruit planted in 1919. A quirky veriatial, usually used to make eau de vie for brandy. Notes of nuts and green apples, with a touch of spice. Lovely, almost rich texture and great acid to give snap and length. The vines, planted in 1919 giving this wine surprising concentration and depth.
- 2014 M.Chapoutier** Bila-Haut Grenache Blanc / Grenache gris (Cotes du Roussillon , France) **44**  
The Roussillon history is complex and compelling, and has at times been quite violent. Terraces on stony soil, with a rich geological background and a climate that man has adopted for his crops. The Roussillon was bound to attract Michel Chapoutier's attention. An aromatic blend of Grenache Blanc, Grenache Gris and Macabeu Billa-Haut has a pleasing round palate with great acidity finished with mild minerality.
- 2016 Lorca Fantasia** Torrontes (Lorca Valley , Argentina) **56**  
Torrontés is Argentina's white grape of choice. This fresh, clean example is a greenish yellow colour. Maximum expression of fruit. Strong presence of floral notes, jasmine, and citrus notes. Good freshness and a long finish. Perfect paired with some seafood or quaffed as is!
- 2015 All Saints** Marsanne (Wahgunyah, Victoria) **51**  
Brilliant very pale straw colour with a watery hue. Nosing reveals scents of ripe pear and honeysuckle followed by some Jonathan apple with very faint spice end notes. Medium bodied and texturally well rounded the palate features flavours of ripe pears, honeysuckle, a trace of citrus and light spice. Clean dry finish. Aftertaste of ripe pears, honeysuckle and a touch of spice.
- 2016 Pagos de Galir Via Nova** Godello (Entoma, Spain) **62**  
Yellow, straw-colored. Intense fruit bouquet, apple, white flowers. Balanced in the mouth silky, elegant, full and fresh on the palate. With a perfect acidity-alcohol balance and a long mineral finish. A really fun and seldom seen varietal.
- 2016 Garagiste** Cotier Pinot Gris (Mornington Peninsula, Victoria) **66**  
**2016 Garagiste** Cotier Riesling (Mornington Peninsula, Victoria) **66**  
**2016 Garagiste** Cotier Gewürztraminer (Mornington Peninsula, Victoria) ~ **66**
- Anyone with a passing interest in cool-climate Australian wines will already know that Garagiste is one of the Mornington Peninsula's brightest rising stars. Barnaby Flanders has been making great, terroir-driven Pinot Noir and Chardonnay in Mornington for a while now under his Garagiste label, this, the "Cotier" range is a step up again with minimal intervention, carbonic maceration and skin contact. These are 'Orange Wines' with class and swagger. The first thing you notice about the **2016 Pinot Gris** is the beautiful copper colour. In this, and all things, this isn't your typical Pinot Gris: herbal, savoury and dry. like all these wines it's heavily textured with notes of ruby red grapefruit, amaro and black tea. the **2016 Riesling** is golden in the glass, rich and pithy in the mouth. looks for yellow grapefruit, lemongrass and ginger again with that skin contact grip. The **2016 Gewürztraminer**, from a small planting of low-yielding plot on the Tuerong flatlands. A magic nose of lifted spicy, floral, honey, cardamom, roses and lychee notes. Exotic and pretty sexy.
- 2013 Vina Marson** Grazia Pinot Bianco, picolit, Friulano (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **58**  
40% Pinot Bianco, 26% Malvasia d'Istria, 20% Friulano, 14% Picolit. Pale green in colour, the Grazia exhibits attractive aromas of preserved lemon, citrus peel and orange blossom with a hint of flinty struck match. Possessing an intriguing textural palate reminiscent of the multi-blend wines of Friuli, this medium bodied wine displays characters of peach, melon and lemon with a creamy almond finish.  
Drink now!

- 2015 Amstead Estate** Marsanne (Heathcote, Victoria) **62**  
A great local example of the verity. A full bodied and textural wine, one should expect pear, melon and a distinct nuttiness wrapped in a super pleasant but not to clinging viscosity.
- 2017 Sutton Grange Field Blend** Viognier, Fiano (Bendigo, Victoria) **59**  
A 'Field Blend' of Fiano and Viognier picked from the granite foothills of Mount Alexander. Punchy aromatics of lemons, mandarin, guava and white peach, with a little savoury spice on the schnoz. The palate is fleshy with heaps of white stone fruits and citrus, balanced with a marzipan and lemon butter, All rounded out with a lick of acidity.
- 2009 Mount Burrumboot** Marsanne, Viognier (Heathcote, Victoria) **58**  
Hailing from the Northern most tip of the Heathcote GI this Mount Burrumboot Estate white This is a belting example of two classic white Rhone grapes. Aromas of passionfruit, honeysuckle, with a hint of almond, luscious passionfruit and apricot kernel finishing in a lingering dry finish. Great with anything with a little spice.
- 2016 Craggy Range Single Vineyard** Sauvignon Blanc (Martinborough, New Zealand) **54**  
Located at the southern end go the North Island, the Te Muna Road Vineyard's Sauvignon Blanc is an excellent expression of Sauvignon Blanc from the region. Fresh and crisp, showing racy citrus, and notes of peach with lovely texture and balance. Polished, long and lovely
- 2016 Spring Vale** Sauvignon Blanc (Cranbrook, Tasmania) **59**  
Spring Vale is zesty and packed full of flavour. The nose has vibrant aromas of tropical fruit with subtle citrus and floral characters. The palate is layered with intense fruit, minerally texture and tingly acid, all beautifully balanced and showing incredible persistence on the finish. A great Sav from our freinds down south.
- 2015 Dourthe No. 1** Sauvignon Blanc (Bordeaux, France) **65**  
lemon and grapefruit zest with those tell-tale herbaceous "grassy" notes dominate the nose and are mirrored on the palate with the addition of passionfruit and lemon zest.
- 2016 42 Degrees South** Sauvignon Blanc (Coal River Valley, Tasmania) **58**  
Reflecting the central latitude of our beloved state across the Bass Strait, 42 Degrees South embodies Tasmania's position at the centre of fruit-driven wines. Refreshingly tropical, it's Sav that can hold it's own alongside any of its mainland brethren.
- 2014 Costanzo & Sons** Sauvignon Blanc (Strathbogie Ranges ,Victoria) **64**  
The fruit was handpicked from unirrigated vines growing in Joe and Cindy's organically managed vineyard high up in the the Strathbogie Ranges presenting itself in a full-bodied textural Sauvignon Blanc style. Aromas of lime, savoury almonds and some flinty notes reveal themselves on the nose. A tightly woven palate offers lemon and grapefruit, followed by fresh natural acidity and a complex savoury finish.
- 2014 Telera Pernella** Sauvignon Blanc / Fume Blanc (Mornington Peninsula ,Victoria) **57**  
Pernella is an expression of Mornington Peninsula Sauvignon Blanc. Richly textured, it's made from estate-grown handpicked grapes, barrel fermented in selected French oak. Heaps of peach and passionfruit on the nose, pleasing acidity, balanced with tropical fruits, citrus and a lingering finish.
- 2016 Domaine Huet Sec** Chenin Blanc (Loire Valley ,France) **59**  
Usually I make it a note not to use profane language when writing tasting notes. But holy shit is this wine good. Im a massive fan of Chenin Blanc as it is and I'm of the opinion that this is the best producer rolling wines out of Vouvray. Already has that lanolin character on the nose, fairly light-bodied fruit with a ripe, tropical citrus character, plus a bit of peach. Drinks kinda like honey on toast.
- 2015 Domaine Gaisot Aligote** Aligote (D'Auxerre ,France) **84**  
Aligoté is notorious for requiring old vines and the right soils to produce wines of quality, and Gaisot's holdings nail the brief (parcels of 40 and 92 year old vines). The soils are made up of ancient clays, littered with fossilised oyster shells and limestone. A clean and precise bouquet with lime, flower scents, limestone and a whiff of sea spray. On the Palate expect a slightly waxen texture, lemon and tangerine notes all tied up with a dash of spice. A super fun textual wine and well worth a look.
- 2015 Mclvor Estate** Marsanne / Viognier /Roussanne (Heathcote, Victoria) **59**  
This blend of Marsanne, Viognier and Roussane is based on a classic Rhone style blend. It has savoury aromas of lemongrass with a hint of ginger, limes and grapefruits, the palate is full of fresh citrus, fine tannins and bright acidity and good body.
- 2016 Garagiste Le Stagiaire** Chardonnay (Mornington Peninsula, Victoria) **54**  
This attractive Mornington Chardonnay is all P58 clone from Garagiste's Balnarring and Red Hill vineyards. The fruit was hand sorted in the vineyard and winery then whole bunch pressed, and the cloudy juice was transferred to a mixture of new and old puncheons to ferment using indigenous yeasts. The wine was matured on its lees in barrel for 9 months. It's a Chardonnay brimming with grapefruit pith, citrus and floral aromas. On the palate you get a brisk, refreshing shot of bright citrus and stone fruit, vibrant acidity, and a long, textured savoury finish.

- 2015 Flametree** Chardonnay (Margret River, Western Australia) **51**  
 Chardonnay has rightfully made a significant come-back over the past few years and continues to be a product in high demand. Flametree has a wonderful combination of fine fruit flavours and tight structure, very much in line with the new wave of modern Australian Chardonnays. Dried pear, grapefruit, honeydew melon and fig flavours are beautifully supported by subtle French oak.
- 2016 Aller Trop Loin** Chardonnay (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **51**  
 So the story goes that when Mark Sztar stated making Kosher wines in 2012 under the six parallels south banner a non practicing Jew trod on an the palate on which an open fermenter of chardonnay stood, "de-holying" it's contents by doing so. What was Mark to do? His response was to call this vintage "Aller Trop Loin" which translates to "A step too far" referring to the unfortunate trod. and of course slap a picture of a sow with a raised trotter on the label. Thus leaving the wine, Unoaked, unfined, unfiltered and unholy. Bright Peach and floral aromas with a gently nutty and flinty edge. Supple palate, juicy texture and crunchy, zesty acidity. a great wine, with if I'm being honest, a better story.
- 2015 Denton Shed** Chardonnay (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **57**  
 John and Simon Denton's Vineyard is located in the Yarra Valley, is on a fabulous site with great aspect for grapes and with wonderful views of the whole valley. The granite base is most unusual in the Yarra Valley, and together with the natural amphitheatre that the plug created, has consistently produced exceptional grapes. The 2015 Chardonnay exhibits lemony notes with crisp acidity, stone fruits and elegance. A touch of mealyneess adds complexity with excellent texture and length.
- 2016 Bress** Chardonnay (Macedon, Victoria) **51**  
 Yet another cracking vintage from Adam and the team out at Bress. Think Chablis style Chardoanny, predominately un-oaked, allowing the pristine fruit intensity balanced by a crisp acid line.
- 2016 Craiglee** Chardonnay (Sunbury, Victoria) **60**  
 From what I consider to be one of the most under-rated vineyards in Victoria, this sublime Chardonnay is rich and vibrant, unctuous and luscious, all in equal measures. Superbly integrated fine oak, with notes of vanilla and cashews brimming to the fore. Juicy fruit flavours of ripe melon & grapefruit linger for quite some time.
- 2016 Six Parallel South** Chardonnay (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **72**  
 Another winner for Both Mark Sztar and more widely the Kosher wine drinking community. A chardonnay that's right up my alley. Stone fruit, citrus and vanilla on the nose. Lemon, green apples and grapefruit with this rounding nuttiness on the palate. A wonderfully balanced circus forward Chardonnay. If you like young Chablis, this is for you.
- 2016 Bress** Chardonnay (Chablis, France) **115**  
 Bress is a sustainable farming enterprise that strives collaboration with like-minded folks, both in Australia and over the pond. This 2016 Old Vine Chablis is one such endeavour. Vintage exchanges between Bress and a top tier Chablis winemaker and true gentleman, Guenole Breteau deau has resulted in greater cultural and winemaking awareness for both families, everyones a winner. plenty of acid balanced by wonderful fruit ant lingering texture. A singing example of one of my favourite styles, made by some local legends.
- 2010 Domaine Parigot Clos St jean 1er Cru** Chardonnay (Burgundy, France) **260**  
 The hillside above Clos Saint-Jean is occupied by a large quarry, which serves to demonstrate the area's soil profile. This soil is pebbly and chalky, underpinned by the limestone that is found along most of the Cote d'Or. The porosity of the soil, as well as the slope of the hill, makes for good drainage, and vines will grow deep into the ground in search of moisture. This Premier Cru offers up layers of toasted almonds and caramel underscoring the baked apple, mineral and spice. A smooth creamy finish is cleansed by the fresh acidity and a tinge of pineapple, a finish that will send you back for another sip time and time again.
- 2016 AIX Saint Aix** Grenache, Syrah, Cinsault (Provence, France) **63**  
 A fragrant and well balanced wine, AIX's hypnotising salmon pink colour reveals a fruity freshness and premium rosé. The nose is fresh and fragrant, delicate yet youthful and offers classy notes of watermelon, strawberries and flowers. Created using 30% of rosé bleeding and 70% direct pressing, the softest hint of Carignan was added to the classical Provence blend of Grenache, Syrah and Cinsault to give the 2016 vintage an even more profound depth. I looked long and hard for a brilliantly dry southern french style pink and this is what i have arrived on. do yourself a favour, grab a bottle with a couple of mates in the sunshine of the laneway one afternoon, you won't regret it.

*"Wine makes daily living easier, less hurried,  
 with fewer tensions and more tolerance"*  
*-Benjamin Franklin*