

RED WINE

- 2017 Lethbridge Menage a Noir** Pinot Noir (Geelong, Victoria) **66**
I can't speak more highly of the fine folks at Lethbridge, I'm yet to try one of their wines that I didn't love. This Pinot certainly isn't braking the trend. Dark cherry, Satsuma plum and berry aromas with some funky, earthy spice, and forest-floor traces. Vibrant, berry flavours, crunchy tannins and elegant mouthfeel with a lingering fresh finish. Pretty sure i'll give this one a work out for a while.
- 2016 Garagiste Le Stagiaire** Pinot Noir (Mornington Peninsula , Victoria) **56**
The fruit for the La Stagiaire Pinot predominantly comes from Garagiste's Balnarring and Tuerong vineyards, with a small proportion of Merricks and Red Hill. The grapes were sorted then mostly destemmed and fermented in small open fermenters using indigenous yeast, minimal hand plunging, and the must/wine spent 22 days on skins. This is brilliant value Mornington. Super delicious, aromatic and sweetly fruited, showing an abundance of dark cherry and poached plum aromas, with subtle clove and cinnamon spice complementing in the background.
- 2016 Michael Hall Sang de Pigeon** Pinot Noir (Adelaide Hills, South Australia) **76**
Sang de Pigeon "Pigeon's Blood" is a nod to Michael's former life as a jewellery valuer. It's the trade term for the colour of the finest rubies. Seems fitting as this current vintage is a gem. Wonderfully light with a red fruit driven palate with an elegant structure. This will be sure to get a work out this season.
- 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 thee different plots in Victoria Darriwill, Sinclair and Hently, 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.
- 2016 Telera Su Mar** 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.
- 2014 Lupe Cholet Comte de Lupe** Pinot Noir (Burgundy, France) **81**
Kinda was addicted to this producer a few years ago, not life ruining addiction, but easily a bottle a week with friends. Rarely have I found a burgundy of this quality at this price. Bright garnet-red colour, lovely fruitiness, with aromas of strawberries, blackcurrant, red fruit and sweet spices. Expect up front red fruit with some lovely savouriness with a fine tannic structure.
- 2013 Ten Minutes By Tractor McCutcheon 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 at Ten Minutes By Tractor is exemplary. 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, strawberryed exuberance keeps the mood chipper.
- 2013 Bindi Block 5** Pinot Noir (Macedon Ranges, Victoria) **179**
2011 Bindi Block 5 Pinot Noir (Macedon Ranges, Victoria) **212**
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.

"In victory, you deserve Champagne. In defeat you need it."

-Napoleon Bonaparte

2015 Domaine Goisot Corpes De Garde Cotes d'Auxerre Pinot Noir (Cotes d'Auxerre, France) **118**

2014 Domaine Goisot La Ronce Cotes d'Auxerre Pinot Noir (Cotes d'Auxerre, France) **162**

Every so often you get shown something special, something interesting and exciting. In this instance wines from a place I knew very little about made by a team I'd never heard of, working tirelessly to produce stunning wines in what is considered a "lesser appellation". Like all of France's greatest winegrowers, father and son Jean-Hughes and Guilhem Goisot work tirelessly in their vineyards to produce the highest standards of grapes possible. The vineyards are planted to 10,000 vines per acre as opposed to the regional average of roughly half this. The viticulture is certified biodynamic and yields are kept very low. They use only homeopathic, natural treatments in the vineyard and harvests are done exclusively by hand, with several passes through the vineyard. In the winery the philosophy is classic 'minimalist' with natural yeasts, minimal fining and or filtration only if required. The wines of Domaine Goisot are for those open minded drinkers who don't drink vineyard names but rather are more concerned with the quality and integrity they find in the glass – in this case they will find a great deal of both. A certified biodynamic Pinot Noir the **Corpes De Garde** has a simple but pleasant black plum and raspberry coulis-scented nose, slightly confit in style. The palate is quite structured and grippy, with a lick of savoury bell pepper towards the finish. The **La Ronce** is all red. Redcurrant, cranberry and bergamot aromas, very harmonious. The palate is very well balanced with fine tannin, a little chewiness on kick off, but then coming back with a gorgeous blackcurrant, cranberry and sour cherry finish.

2012 Chandon de Briailles Corton Marchaudes Grand Cru Pinot Noir (Côte-d'Or, France) **303**

Chandon de Briailles is a 13-hectare, biodynamic domaine with important Corton, Corton-Charlemagne, Savigny-lès-Beaune and Pernand Vergelesses holdings. It is owned by Comte Aymar and Nadine de Nicolaÿ, Nadine's daughter Claude oversees all aspects winemaking, together with their talented new Australian cellar master Christian Knott, while her cousin's husband, François Grangé, is in charge of the vineyards. The skilfully tended, long time organic vineyards have been managed biodynamically for a few years now and were certified from the 2011 harvest. There is also a horse used for ploughing in order to minimise compaction. The impact of such practices is always difficult to quantify precisely yet there is no question that the vineyards are today delivering a brighter fruit profile with more intensity and flesh. Another recent change has been to the oak regime. While new oak remains forbidden, François and Claude de Nicolaÿ and their new cellar master have lowered the average age of their barrels by eradicating many of the truly ancient casks and replacing them with younger oak. A light hit of plum mingles with game aromas on the nose, whilst the palate there is awesome size, weight and punch to the rich big-bodied flavours of sweet red and cherry fruits layered in with savoury spice and anise.

2014 Radio Boka Tempranillo (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 Livewire Wines 'Swanno' Tempranillo (Geelong, Victoria) **55**

Anthony Brain started working life as a chef, but in the late 1990s took a slight bend into the wine industry. He started gathering experience in the Yarra Valley, and simultaneously started oenology studies at CSU. Now making wine on the Bellarine Peninsula, Geelong under his own label LIVEWIRE and his are some of my newly discovered favourites. The fruit for this juicy Tempranillo was sourced from the Heathcote Ridge Vineyard, before being matured in French and American oak for 10 months. Black cherry, raspberry, bitter cola and anise notes bridge nose to palate, with crunchy acidity towing the flavours long.

2016 Glenwillow Nebbiolo (Bendigo, Victoria) **54**

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.

2015 Six Parallel South Merlot (Bendigo, Victoria) **72**

The blow inflicted to Merlot by the 2004 film 'Sideways' may very well be irreparable, but I'm going to do my bit. Red and blue plums, berry compote with undertones of cedar. Ripe blue fruits, blackberries and fruit cake with hints of mocha. all wrapped up in a velvety mouthfeel with smooth tannin. A belting expression of bendigo fruit

2016 M.Chapoutier Trenal Gamay (Beaujolais, France) **64**

In the heart of the Crus area of Beaujolais, wines of "Morgon" AOC are often described as best representing the character of their terroir. The appellation is dominated by a hill called Mont du Py. I've always felt that Gamay is often overlooked and I can't figure out why. Wonderfully flexible you can bend it to work with whatever tickles your fancy. Deep ruby in color, this wine offers a complex nose, solid mineral and fruity notes. It mingles aromas of ripe raspberry, black and morello cherries with hints of flint, ink, clove and black pepper. Light and savoury.

2016 Daniel Bouland Morgon Gamay (Beaujolais, France) **93**

Daniel Bouland makes some of the most old school and expressive wines in the whole of Beaujolais. The '15 Morgon was easily my favourite red of that year and this vintage is shaping up to be the same. It's a really pretty version of the wine in 2016 with bright cherry, redcurrant, grenadine and lavender notes. Medium-bodied and perfectly balanced with a vibrant, lingering and perfumed palate. Do it.

2016 The Other Wine Co. Grenache (Adelaide Hills, Victoria) **61**

Other wine Co. are all about fresh drinkable wines. Wines made with loads of natural flavour packed in. Wines that are made to be enjoyed with friends and without fuss. In this venture they nail it with the 2016 Grenache. A combination of whole berry and whole bunch yields a spicy vibrant light bodied red.

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.					
2017	Aller Trop Loin		Cabernet Franc	(Yarra Valley, Victoria)	58
looking for medium body savoury red? look no further. Pretty nose of flowers, raspberries, roasted red pepper. A juicy and crunchy palate made up of cherries, smokey tomatoes and dried herbs. something well worth a look.					
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.					
2013	Mclvor Estate	Gianniseddu	Sangiovese, Cabernet	(Heathcote, Victoria)	109
A smashing blend of Sangiovese and Cabernet dedicated to Cynthia's father Giovanni (Gianni) a proud "Sardinian" and Italian. Medium red in colour with primary fruit concentration of red currants, red cherries and a lick of raspberries. The palate provides chewy tannins, lots of cherry like flavours and long sweet spice finish, fine grained tannins provide elegance and an impressive length and a super smooth finish. A belter with a little food.					
2016	Tellurian	GMS	Grenache, Shiraz, Mourvèdre	(Heathcote, Victoria)	66
A pretty classic and wonderfully balanced blend, although a little havieron the Mourvedre than is custom, from the fine folks at Tellurian. Lifted aromas of wild strawberry, raspberry and savoury spice. sweet red fruits lighting up the mid palate, and hints of cranberry leading to balanced finish, with super fine tannins. A superb expression of the region.					
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 whilst the 2009 is currently singing, the 2010 is still quit firm and tannic. Delicious wine.

2013	Vina Marson		Shiraz, Viognier	(Heathcote, Victoria)	64
Ruby red in colour, the 2012 Syrah possesses attractive notes of plum, tar, black olive and sweet vanilla. This funky wine has a dark and attractive palate of blood plum, dark chocolate with a sweet and toasty finish. A delightful expression of Shiraz from one of Australia's most renowned Shiraz regions with just a lick (7%) of Viognier to round the edges.					

2016	Gil Graves		Shiraz/Malbec	(Axedale, Victoria)	60
Kaye and Ken kicked off their wine adventure in 2011 planting four varieties of vines, shiraz, malbec, sangiovese and viognier. Now looking at something in the order of 2550 vines. After the fruit is picked it's handed off to the guys at Boomtown wines in Castlemaine for production. The wine itself is a dark fruited, spiced red. Herbaceous aromatics of thyme and myrtle. Generous ripe fruits - very dark raspberry, chocolate. Structurally balanced with soft tannins. They've sold all they've got so get it while you can!					

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. A singing expression of Northern Rhone.					

2014	Micheal Hall	Stone Well	Shiraz	(Barossa Valley, South Australia) ~	94
2014	Micheal Hall	Flaxman Valley	Shiraz	(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, talc tannins.					

- 2017 Luke Lambert Crudo** Shiraz (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **52**
All Luke Lambert wines are handpicked and of single-vineyard origin. They are wildly perfumed with moderate alcohol, fresh acidities, powdery tannins, and limited oak influence. Rolling out of what is close to the coolest Microclimate in Yarra this vintage of Crudo is just as loved as the last. a wonderfully fruit generous loosely structured shiraz.
- 2013 Munari Lady's Pass** Shiraz (Heathcote, Victoria) **62**
Lady's pass is named for one of the largest pastoralist holdings along what is now the Northern Highway. A medium to full bodied Shiraz with plenty of fruit generosity and underlying savoury spice. Much what you'd expect from a winemaker that's been punching out quality since '93.
- 2013 Heathcote II** Shiraz (Heathcote, Victoria) ~ **78**
Heathcote II is the product of two individuals, Peder Rosdal and Lionel Flutto and is all about producing belting red wines. Best bit is they're only a stones throw away us here in Bendigo. Blueberries, pine needles and light hints of eucalypts kick things off. Followed by well integrated smooth tannins. As it opens up the charred wood, oak, dark berries and spice really shine though.
- 2015 Condie Estate The Gwen** Shiraz (Heathcote, Victoria) **69**
Located in the far east Heathcotes Cambrian soil, along Wild Duck creek, Condie are making wines to best reveal not only varietal but also Heathcotes unique terroir. After maturation in a blend of both new and old French oak for 15 months, the result is a rich, full bodied, fruit driven Shiraz with dark plum, blackberry and cherry fruit characters, well balanced acid with fine tannins.
- 2017 Luke Lambert** Syrah (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **79**
A singing example of Aussie cold climate Syrah, crisp acid and black pepper balanced beautifully with red cherry and sweet blackberry fruit and a herbal tannic finish. "This is the Syrah I've been trying to make for 14 years," - Luke Lambert.
- 2008 Syrahmi La La** Shiraz (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.
- 2006 Jasper Hill Emily's Paddock** Shiraz Cabernet Franc (Heathcote, Victoria) **220**
2003 Jasper Hill Georgia's Paddock Shiraz (Heathcote, Victoria) **191**
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.
- 2015 Eden Hall Springton** Cabernet Sauvignon (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.
- 2017 Six Parallel South** Cabernet Sauvignon (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **71**
All that you would look for in a straight Cab Sav. Aromas of black currents, cassis and spice all mirrored on the palate alongside light herbaciousness and some well integrated oak. Though not as "in your face" as some other expressions of the varietal it's gentle touch makes for some spiffing drinking. Minimal intervention. Maximum love.
- 2005 Chateau De Rochemorin** Cabernet Sauvignon / Merlot (Bordeaux, France) **143**
Château de Rochemorin belonged to the great philosopher and writer Charles Louis de Secondat, Baron de Montesquieu, in the 18th century. Among other famous works, he was the author of the "Persian Letters". Montesquieu was a fine ambassador for the red wines of Rochemorin among his friends, acquaintances and the notables he met during his trips throughout Europe. Expect dark berry and cassis on the schnoz with some more savoury tobacco, woodsmoke and spices towards the finish. A spectacularly well structured example of Bordeaux.

"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