

On the Vine  
Liquor Barons  
Fine Wine Guide



winter 2020



**Greenstone  
2016 Heathcote  
Shiraz**

This Estate Series wine is a deep brooding ruby/mauve colour and has rich blueberry and blackberry fruit with star anise and black peppercorn to boot. Smoky oak adds depth and the balance across the palate is exemplary. Perfect with juicy beef ribs.

**\$26.99 in any six pack**

**\$29.99 each**



**winter 2020**

Our panel is going ahead reviewing wines, although now within COVID-19 guidelines - with limited personnel contact. The bottles remain masked and our comments and scores are recorded as usual. We review over 200 wines for each of these publications and select only a small number of them for your enjoyment. We rarely review the high-priced celebrated stars, as they receive adequate promotion, it's the less expensive wines with both quality and value that we search for. It gives us enormous pleasure to find a wine like that amongst the many that decorate our tasting table.

Here are our latest recommendations.

Cheers, Rod Properjohn.



**Henschke  
2017 Barossa  
Henry's Seven**

A Rhone-style red that is full of class and has bundles of instant drinkability. Deep red with a brick edge, it has spice and earthiness, luscious ripe red fruit, musty aged-wood characters, soft tannins and beautiful balance throughout.

Ridiculously good with rib-sticking farmhouse-style food.

**\$31.99** in any six pack

**\$34.99** each



**IL Palazzo  
2017 Chianti  
DOCG (It)**

A wine for the Italians and Aussies as well. Red, with a youthful tint of mauve, this is typical Chianti with rustic aromatics, a sweet-earthy palate, herbal traits, silky tannins and a lovely savoury finish. We're impressed by the wine and the price. Ideal with red-sauce pasta or light gamey meats.

**\$17.99** in any six pack

**\$19.99** each



**Château Bel Air  
De L'Orme 2016  
Bordeaux Supérieur (Fr)**

For the money, one of the better Bordeaux reds we've seen in a while. Mid brick/red, it has blackcurrant and camphor and a medium-weighted palate of fine tannins and balance. Don your beret and serve with filet de boeuf. Definitely one for the Francophiles.

**\$17.99** in any six pack

**\$19.99** each

# SHOP & WIN

Members purchase a bottle of Chalk Hill Tempranillo Grenache and go into the draw to win a 6 pack of Alpha Crucis Winemakers' Series.



## Chalk Hill 2019 McLaren Vale Tempranillo Grenache

A Spanish blend that is becoming popular in Australia and this is the reason. It has a bright youthfulness; the fleshy pulpy ripe fruit of grenache, the lifted savoury kitchen spices of tempranillo and older well-used oak gives the wine depth and structure, which suits it beautifully.

**\$21.99** in any six pack  
**\$24.99** each



## Mount Trio Vineyard 2018 Great Southern Syrah

A bright crimson colour, this has the customary white pepper aroma of the regional shiraz and medium-weight palate that is fresh, squeaky clean, with fine tannins and attractive balance. Drinks well in its youth and will do so for the next few years. Well-priced youngster from an absolute brilliant vintage.

**\$19.99** in any six pack  
**\$22.99** each



## Majella 2016 The Musician Coonawarra Cabernet Shiraz

We love the cabernet from this stable, this is its little brother which has a bucketful of shiraz thrown in. Unlike its sibling, it's made for early drinking with minimal oak, gentle tannins and plummy/blackcurrant fruit. Then there is the unmistakable acidity of the Coonawarra region. Magic with a cottage pie.

**\$16.99** in any six pack  
**\$18.99** each



## Flowstone 2018 Margaret River Moonmilk Shiraz Grenache

Generous and juicy is an apt way of describing this wine. A vibrant mauve red colour, it has bundles of mulberry and other red fruits, soft tannins and a dollop of silky chocolate. Beaut young quaffer for immediate drinking or short-term maturation. Perfect with a barbecue.

**\$21.99** in any six pack  
**\$23.99** each



**Dalrymple 2018  
Tasmanian Pinot Noir**

Cherry and strawberry fruit abound in this young pinot from Pipers River, yet it has the intrinsic varietal characters of funky meatiness and dried spice. Velvety soft textures and gentle tannins prevail and expansive fruit flavours highlight the finish. Will not disappoint when served with duck, rabbit or guinea fowl.

**\$31.99** in any six pack  
**\$34.99** each



**Warramate 2016  
Yarra Valley  
Syrah**

The cool climate Yarra is very influential in this red. It's a medium-bodied wine with light red fruit, a waft of dill spice, a whiff of pepper, oak, good length and a dry acidity. Although light, it's balanced. If you enjoy spicy food with red wine, try this with the curries of Northern India.

**\$24.99** in any six pack  
**\$27.99** each



**The Yard 2018  
Riversdale Vineyard  
Cabernet Sauvignon**

Distinctly mauve in colour, this Frankland River wine has an abundance of blackcurrant and plum and a smoky oaky lift. Furry tannins coat the medium-weighted palate and linger long in the mouth to a cleansing acid finish. Requires a little bottle development to soften and drink at its best.

**\$29.99** in any six pack  
**32.99** each





**Vasse Felix  
2018 Sauvignon Blanc  
Semillon**

There's mainly sav blanc here in this Margaret River blend with semillon adding a lemony lift. It's not simple. Indigenous yeast is used in fermentation, as well as skin contact and oak is employed as a fermentation vessel equally with the ubiquitous stainless steel. There's texture, fruit sweetness and complexity here, not just tropical and grassy fruit.

**\$19.99 in any six pack  
\$22.99 each**



**Paul Conti  
2019 Margaret River  
Chardonnay**

A thoroughly modern chardonnay that has fresh vibrant citrusy fruit playing the leading part. Then there is oak that is sitting on the sidelines and adding another dimension and support to the wine's structure. Pleasant medium-weighted and well-priced youngster that will drink well over the next three years.

**\$17.99 in any six pack  
\$19.99 each**



**Bleasdale  
2019 Adelaide Hills  
Pinot Gris**

This cool region high up a little to the east of Adelaide is a star when it comes to pinot gris/grigio. You'll see spice and pear in this wine, an attractive youthful freshness, a little fruit sweetness and balancing acidity. Lovely quaffer and good value. Drink soon.

**\$17.99 in any six pack  
\$20.99 each**



**Domaine Du Cléray  
2019 Val de Loire  
Sauvignon (Fr)**

Here's something different for you, it's sauvignon blanc from the Loire in the middle of France. Although it does have a herbal character, it's unlike Marlborough savvy. This is a fuller bodied dry wine with stone fruit and a dash of citrus and a textural middle palate. Works well with seafood.

**\$19.99 in any six pack  
\$21.99 each**



**Triennes  
2018 Rosé (Fr)**

An attractive Provencal rosé with the perfume of a rose garden and strawberry fields. Made from grapes grown close to the Mediterranean, it has the attractive salmon pink colour and savouriness of the regional rosé wines. One of the owners is the celebrated winemaker/proprietor of Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, which makes the world's most expensive wine.

**\$21.99 in any six pack  
\$24.99 each**



**Castelli  
2018 Pemberton  
Chardonnay**

Here is a traditional style of chardonnay with a nutty and smoky oak influence that at present shackles the subtle cool-climate stone fruit. The balance should change with bottle age and the fruit may soon start kicking some goals. A good food wine, try with a roasted chook with fresh herbs and all the trimmings.

**\$26.99 in any six pack  
\$28.99 each**



**Juniper  
2019 Margaret River  
Small Batch Fiano**

The reputation of this wine is growing around town, pity there is not a lot of it. With poached pear and lemon curd on the nose, the palate is fleshy with similar fruit characters and is balanced by a fresh lifted sweetness, creaminess, a little nuttiness and crunchy acidity. Seductive wine and marvellous value.

**20.99 in any six pack  
\$22.99 each**



**Mesh  
2019 Eden Valley  
Riesling**

Always popular, this is an amalgamation of the talents of Robert Hill Smith (Barossa) and Jeffrey Grosset (Clare), two champions of riesling. Fresh lemon/lime flavours, lightness, dryness, good length and sabre-sharp acidity has riesling lovers salivating. Stunning with prawns, scallops and oysters.

**\$25.99 in any six pack  
\$28.99 each**



**Wairau River  
2019 Pinot Gris  
Marlborough (NZ)**

Mid straw in colour, this has herbal aromatics along with citrus and a rich textural palate of apple strudel, spiced pear, and ripe mandarine. A dollop of grape sugar adds weight and is balanced beautifully by refreshing acidity. Tidy wine and will complement spicy Thai cuisine.

**\$26.99 in any six pack  
\$29.99 each**

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the Panel tastes from

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