

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.
- 2017 BEB Co.** Pinot Noir (Harcourt, Victoria) **43**
Those of us lucky enough to call Bendigo home have probably come across the fantastic Cider that Scott at blue elephant has been making for a while now. Off the back of that success he and his team have made a lateral move into wine production. Described by Scott as a "Pinot Noir at altitude with attitude" we're inclined to agree. A heap of red fruit and lifted spice on the nose being pretty indicative of a cold climate Pinot. The palate has a little more going on with black fruit being layered upon cherries and wild raspberry, finishing with a fine tannin.
- 2017 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.
- 2017 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 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.
- 2018 Arfion** Pinot Noir (Yarra Valley , Victoria) **73**
I've found Yarra Pinot Noir a little hit and miss of late, but this is definitely a hit. Spicy cherry, dark berry, graphite and campari notes. It's a savoury, fine style with a soft toasty finish. A singing example of Victorian Pinot Noir.
- 2016 Bream Creek** Pinot Noir (Yarra Valley, Victoria) **82**
This cool climate Pinot Noir has a generous cherry and spice nose and an intense palate of dark and red cherries, blue fruits and hints of raspberry, supported by fine grained tannins. A little heavier than one might expect from Tassie but oh so very tasty.
- 2016 Telera Su Mar** Pinot Noir (Mornington Peninsula , Victoria) **99**
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.
- 2015 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 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.

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 "lessor 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) ~ **245**

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.

2016 **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** D'yandoit 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.

2017 **Domaine La Remejeanne** Un Air Grenache, Syrah (Côtes du Rhône, France) **59**

Certified organic. 80% Grenache and 20% Syrah. All of the fruit for Olivier Klein's cracking value, organic Un Air Côtes du Rhône, is drawn from the estate's highland, sandy limestone vineyards set around the hamlet of Sabran. Everything is picked by hand, sorted, and then mostly destemmed. The ferment is natural and the wine then spends 7-8 months in concrete tanks with no fining and only a light filtration prior to bottling. wonderfully aromatic, supple and silky Côtes du Rhône, still medium-bodied and filled with plenty of raspberry and black cherry fruit as well as rose and thyme, a lick of confit sweetness. Singing expression of Rhône.

2017 **Mas de Libian** Bout d'Zan Grenache, Syrah (Côtes du Rhône, France) **64**

Named in honour of the 11th century Persian poet, philosopher, wine lover and mathematician (Omar Khayyám), this vivid, supple bottling comes entirely from a single, highland plot, above the house, at the top of the Saint Marcel d'Ardèche plateau. The site is littered with rolled 'gale' stones and was planted between 1960-1980 to Grenache, as well as 15% Syrah and 10% Mourvèdre. It's a medium-bodied, yet structured Rhône rouge, coursing with raspberry and black cherry fruit, as well as lifted violet florals and spicy freshness. There's also some inky and meaty notes, presumably from the Mourvèdre, Simply a beautiful and deep red Rhône with loads of personality.

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 Mas de Libian Khayyâm Rouge Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre (Côtes du Rhône, France) **83**
 Named in honour of the 11th century Persian poet, philosopher, wine lover and mathematician (Omar Khayyâm), this vivid, supple bottling comes entirely from a single, highland plot, above the house, at the top of the Saint Marcel d'Ardèche plateau. The site is littered with rolled 'galef' stones and was planted between 1960-1980 to Grenache, as well as 15% Syrah and 10% Mourvèdre. It's a medium-bodied, yet structured Rhône rouge, coursing with raspberry and black cherry fruit, as well as lifted violet florals and spicy freshness. There's also some inky and meaty notes, presumably from the Mourvèdre, Simply a beautiful and deep red Rhône with loads of personality.

2016 Daniel Bouland Côte de Brouilly Cuvée Melanie Gamay (Beaujolais, France) **98**
 Bouland has been one of our favourite producers for a couple of years here at the D and this wine does nothing but affirm our love. Named after his daughter, Cuvée Mélanie is drawn from just half a hectare on the slopes of Mont Brouilly. Bouland's steep parcel of 70-year-old vines are rooted on Mont Brouilly's famous terres bleu within the lieu-dit Tête Noire. A mineral-accented bouquet evokes fresh red/blue fruits and potpourri with a light spicy element. Bright, focused and appealingly sweet, offering concentrated yet lithe raspberry and boysenberry flavors that deepen with aeration. Distinctly graceful in style, finishing gently tannic and impressively long and leaving a sexy lavender pastille note behind. Do it.

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.

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 whilst the 2009 is currently singing, the 2010 is still quit firm and tannic. Delicious wine.

2015 Fattoria Di Bagnolo Chianti Sangiovese (Tuscany, Italy) **59**
 Excellent depth of colour for a Chianti displaying an opaque dark red black core with a vibrant dark red hue. Still very youthful, the nose offers up scents of inky freshly crushed ripe berries and a trace of liquorice laced with earthy dried herb characters and ensuing spicy cedar.

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.

2017 Gil Graves Melbec/Shiraz (Heathcote, Victoria) **66**
 Kicking off in 2011 Gil Graves have been growing some cracking fruit in central Victoria. This year they are proud to present their estate Shiraz Melbec Blend, I say proud because Ken popped into the shop, popped a bottle on the bar and said "we're really proud of this". Made by Tim and the team at Boomtown in Castlemaine you should expect a vibrant cherry red hue, powerful perfume, quince, sweet cinnamon, dried roses and cherry wood. A really excellent example of locals working together to make a great product.

2018 Aller Trop Loin Fu Manchu Summer Red Shiraz, Sauvignon Blanc (Bendigo, Victoria) **46**
 Every year Mark Sztar from Six Parallels south releases a fun funky non kosher wine for the masses to glug. This year is a fun summer red comprised of Bendigo Shiraz and Yarra Valley Sauvignon Blanc. Imagine all the the fruit tones of a shiraz without the tannic structure and well basked off on the secondary savoury elements. Make sure to get a look at the bottle as it pays homage to the classic kung fu movies of the 70s. **Served Chilled.**

- 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.
- 2015 Barfold Estate** Shiraz (Heathcote, Victoria) ~ **54**
 Barfold Estate is a boutique family owned estate located in the SW corner of Heathcote (near Redesdale) in what is already a reign well versed in making some of Australia's best big body reds. Hand picked, hand plunged and cold soaked on skins at length before being laid to rest in French oak makes for a delicate, full bodied wine with excellent dark fruit notes and ripe spice notes, these also this light lifted violet note that we really dig here.
- 2017 Chateau La Croix des Pins Les Frois Villages** grenache, syrah, mourvedre, carrignan (Rhône Valley, France) **61**
 A fairly classic blend of Grenache 80%, Shiraz 10%, Mourvedre 10% and Carrignan 5%. Deep ruby red colour and the bouquet is one of fresh vibrant sweet, and lightly spiced fruit aromas whilst. The palate displays beautiful fruit intensity with a lovely long savoury finish. A really well balanced glass of wine.
- N.V. Domaine De Marcoux Raisin De Loup** grenache, syrah, caladoc, carrignan (Rhône Valley, France) **55**
 The Raisin de Loup is Marcoux's acutely priced, bistro-style Rhône drawn from two small plots of land in the southern reaches of Châteauneuf-du-Pape, where the region's vignerons have historically kept their small acreage of 'Vin de Table' vines. Each year, Marcoux release less than 300 cases of this wine. So technically you could tell your mates you've been quaffing Châteauneuf-du-Pape. blend of Grenache and Syrah, complemented by a dollop of Carignan and Caladoc (an obscure crossing of Grenache and Malbec). It's actually a blend of two consecutive vintages, which is at least one reason why you won't see a vintage on the label. Expect some upfront flesh and then loads of sappy, red jube fruitiness with something earthy and a pinch of tannins to close. Highly gluggable.
- 2009 Domaine Clusel-Roch** Cote-Rotie (Northern Rhône 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 banging of Northern Rhône.
- 2017 Whistling Eagle Dry Red** Shiraz (Heathcote, Victoria) **45**
 Established in 1995 Whistling Eagle is a small family run vineyard and winery just outside Colbinabbin. Their grapes are grown and handled with minimal intervention to show case their affinity with the Cambrian earth within the Heathcote region. Bombers attitude towards wine making is very much work with what you've got, and what he's got is access to some brilliant fruit grown around their picturesque farmhouse. This is what we consider to be a food flexible shiraz. Young light and vibrant with a dry finish.
- 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.
- 2015 Armstead Estate Moorabbee road** Shiraz (Heathcote, Victoria) **64**
 Produced by low yielding mature vines just off the road for which this wine is named. A medium bodied Shiraz with lovely fruity aromas licks of spice and a rounded finish. A very drinkable wine with flavours of cherry and blackberry and just a hint of licorice. Well worth a trip out to the banks of lake Eppalock to enjoy the cellar door and a little BYO lunch. Tell Tom and Emily we sent you.
- 2016 M.Chapoutier Deschants Saint - Joseph** Shiraz (Crozes-Hermitage, France) **67**
 The vineyard was originally established in the areas surrounding Tournon : Mauves, Saint-Jean de Muzols et Lemps, " Mauves wines " were highly reputed in the last century even as far as Russia, on the Tsars' dining table. The soil is granitic and slightly acidic, on the right bank of the Rhône on the foothills of the Massif Central. Intense garnet red in colour, Very floral, developing into liquorice and spices. A supple attack with a dominant of red fruits with a light spiced finish.
- 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.
- 2014 Tellurian Tranter** Shiraz (Heathcote, Victoria) **82**
 Named for the returned soldier George Edwin Tranter who once owned the land that the Tellurian vineyard now sits. A medium to full bodied shiraz with a pleasant minerality working in conjunction with some top quality Heathcote fruit. Pretty hard to go wrong here.

- 2006 Jasper Hill Emily's Paddock** Shiraz Cabernet Franc (Heathcote, Victoria) **175**
 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. a Heathcote institution.
- 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.
- 2004 Majella** Cabernet Sauvignon (Coonawarra, South Australia) **99**
 Regarded as one of Coonawarra's greatest wines, it continues to win trophies and medals throughout Australia and the world. Magenta in colour, with a deep red hue. Mint, eucalypt and dark fruit aromas are evident on the nose, with a palate of plums and hints of fruitcake complexity give great length and backbone. Fruit, oak and tannin concentration will reward your patience, the best bit is, we've done the waiting for you!
- 2006 Wynns** Cabernet Sauvignon (Coonawarra, South Australia) **95**
 First released in 1954, Black Label Cabernet Sauvignon is produced from only the top 20 to 25 per cent of Cabernet Sauvignon fruit grown in our terra rossa vineyards. With a reputation for ageing gracefully and displaying excellent varietal and regional characteristics, the Black Label Cabernet Sauvignon 2016 continues this fine tradition. With a wonderful purple hue and intense black core, the 2006 vintage smells of juicy mulberries and cherries, with hints old dark fruit and creamy oak. The palate contains medium bodied cassis flavours, supported by fine tannins and integrated French oak.
- 2009 Chateau Liverson** Cabernet Sauvignon / Merlot (Bordeaux, France) **109**
 Classified as a Cru Bourgeois in 1932, this splendid estate built in 1850 was formerly owned by the Marquis de Latresne during the 18th century and by the Prince Guy de Polignac from 1984 until the takeover by the Lapalu family in 1995. A stinging example of Haut - Medoc, and a favourite of a few of our regulars, Get in quick!

"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