

# MARION

## DEADMAN'S DOZEN

AUTUMN 2024

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NV Save Our Souls 'Bubbles & Co #4' Rosé Multi-regional Vic

Save Our Souls is a collaboration between winemaking superstar Bill Downie and collector and part-time vigneron, Jason Searle. Fifteen years ago they started with a small batch of rosé and now make up to eleven wines a year. There is an incredible amount of work involved in the blending of this wine, which shows through in the complexity and balance it shows. 66% Chardonnay [Strathbogie, 2021, 2019], 29% Pinot Noir [Yarra Valley, 2018] and 5% Vermentino [Heathcote, 2020].

2022 Gunderloch Fritz's Riesling Rheinhessen Ger

A perennial favourite of winemakers and sommeliers for many years, this 2022 release may very well be the best 'Fritz's' we have ever tasted. Even if you're not a member of the off-dry Riesling fan club we're willing to bet that this will win you over - no-one knows how to balance sweetness and acidity like the Germans. Next time you're adding extra chilli to your spice rub, or making roast porchetta, this wine will be ready and waiting for you.

2023 Konpira Maru 'Future Days' Pinot Gris/Ries/Chard/Arneis King Valley Vic

It's a line-ball decision whether Konpira Maru's Alistair Reed is a better writer or winemaker - if you're curious we suggest you subscribe to their newsletter, it's a mind-bending joy to read! Future Days is the latest release from these blending maestros and in terms of a tasting note for this wine, we couldn't do better than the words produced by Al himself - "it's like a jazz quartet in a bottle - unexpected yet harmoniously in sync. Sun-kissed peaches, crisp apples, and a squeeze of lime."

2023 Gentle Folk Sauvignon Blanc Adelaide Hills SA

Gareth and Rainbo Belton are true superstars in the oft-over-hyped Basket Range in the Adelaide Hills. They farm five sites totalling eight hectares, planted to Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Riesling and Sauvignon Blanc, to produce wines that are pure, classic and, well, gentle! High-altitude Sauvignon Blanc, fermented and aged in older French oak shows us the more subtle side of the variety: grapefruit rather than passionfruit and snow pea rather than asparagus.

2021 Christophe Patrice Chardonnay Burgundy Fra

Christophe Patrice joined his family's business in 1996 and ten years later established his own vineyard [and label]. In 2011, he expanded his domaine to 22 hectares across a number of villages, giving him access to diverse fruit sources. He applies the same 'diversity brings complexity' approach to this wine, blending Chardonnay from Chablis, the surrounds, and further afield, to create an expression of Chardonnay that is not quite Chablis, not quite Côte d'Or, but quite irresistible!

2022 Turenne Côtes de Provence 'Camille' Grenache blend rosé Provence Fra

Rosé is the most consumed wine style in France, a fact that has most likely contributed to the veritable ocean of boring 'pale, dry' rosé out there, as many try to mimic the best examples. Made from certified organic 50% Grenache, 40% Cinsault and 10% Syrah, the palate is light and elegant with subtle berry fruits, a hint of citrus and stonefruit. Get to know a glass of this wine as you reacquaint yourself with the classic salade Niçoise and drink in the last sun of the season.

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2023 Perhelion Pinot Noir

Adelaide Hills SA

Another hit from our good friend Chris Coulter, the Perihelion brand is based on sustainability: the fruit is grown in vineyards that use sustainable practices; the bottles are lightweight; the labels are 100% recycled sugar cane; and the capsules and cartons are produced with 40% recycled materials. The wine inside the bottle is equally impressive - a light and graceful Pinot Noir showing cranberry and red cherry fruit, some leafy autumnal notes and a hint of baking spice.

2022 Dirty Black Denim Novello Barbera

King Valley Vic

The fruit for this wine is sourced from the organic Corsini vineyard. Rather than emulate the savoury and tannic Barberas of northern Italy, the team at DBD wanted to show off a vivid and fresh side to this variety. The winemaking style sits somewhere between 'heavy rose' and 'light red' and has given us a charming chillable red, with notes of watermelon, fruits-of-the-forest and blood orange amaro.

2021 Toolangi Shiraz

Yarra Valley Vic

The effects of a changing climate are increasingly evident in Australian vineyards. Cooler regions are picking their grapes earlier than ever before and planting grapes that thrive in warmer climates. The Yarra has grown Shiraz for a long time, but the future could see it really come to the forefront in the region. This wine from Toolangi shows aromatic notes of dark olive and earth, is medium to full in weight with sophisticated tannins.

2022 Bodegas Pirineos 'Principio' Moristel

Somontano Esp

Producers like Bodegas Pirineos have worked hard over the last 30 years to save this traditional Somontano grape from extinction. Taken from their young Moristel vines, the 'Principio' shows the exuberance of youth. It is aromatic with strawberry, spice and black tea, while on the palate it shows rhubarb, salted plum, currants and a leafy herbal character - great with a wedge of Mornington Peninsula's Mountain Goat cheese.

2021 Lost Buoy Grenache

McLaren Vale

This stand-out expression of McLaren Vale Grenache comes from a vineyard that is located closest to the ocean in all of Australia. Heady winds from the Southern Ocean mean that the grapes growing in the sandstone and limestone Port Willunga cliffs have a long and slow ripening season. Light crimson in the glass, this wine feels more ethereal than you might expect from this warm region, with notes of fresh-baked rhubarb tart, raspberry and baking spice.

2021 Mitchell Harris Cabernet Sauvignon

Pyrenees Vic

Don't count this Cabernet Sauvignon out simply because it comes from one of the cooler wine regions in Victoria. The Pyrenees region receives plenty of sunshine and experiences large diurnal temperature shifts in spring and early summer, meaning there is no lack of fruit concentration, with the added bonus of present acidity. All the classic Cabernet notes of cassis, dark chocolate and cherry are supported by fine chalky tannins and a hint of eucalypt, like the trees that are dotted throughout the region.