Whitlands is home to some of the highest altitude vineyards in Victoria. Here the Burder family focus their energy on fine sparkling wine. This is a dry and crisp wine with fresh citrus fruit that is followed by a little savoury flourish.

2017 Luis Pérez 'El Muelle' Palomino  
Jerez ESP

Often viewed as neutral, the Palomino grape is seldom made as a table wine. In the hands of Luis Pérez and his son Guillermo, Palomino is given its time in the spotlight. 'El Muelle' is aromatic with chamomile, straw and a toasty leesy character. On the palate it’s slightly oxidative with apples, peach and a chalky minerality. Two thumbs up.

2018 Brave New Wine 'Sunshine & Hercules’ Riesling  
Great Southern WA

This is a wine for those that are curious about inventive and different expressions of Riesling. After spending a few hours on skins to give it texture and then being fermented in ceramic egg, the result is a wine that shows sweet florals, citrus, green pears and salinity. Sophisticated and complex.

2018 Fairbank 'Field Blend' Fiano/Viognier  
Bendigo VIC

The Fairbank wines are named after the original name of the Sutton Grange property from the early 1800s and are designed to be fresh and vibrant. A blend of Fiano and Viognier, 'Field Blend' displays ginger, spice and orange stone fruit. It is textural with balancing crunchy lemon and mandarin acidity - another stunning drop from award winning winemaker Melanie Chester!

2015 One Block 'Granite' Chardonnay  
Yarra Valley VIC

We’re loving Chardonnay right now! The One Block is made by Cumulus Inc’s Jayden Ong and is a great example of cool climate Chardonnay from this accomplished winemaker. It has a leesy richness that is kept in check by white stone fruit and a pink grapefruit acidity.

2016 Domaine Gueissard Bandol 'les Restanques' Mouvèdre blend  
Provence FRA

The Gueissard rosé is complex, delicate and dangerously gluggable! This wine from Bandol, a region known for making the most complex of rosé, is aromatic with wild flowers, pomegranate and crushed oyster shells. On the palate there is a salinity, red cherries and cranberry with a wonderfully fresh finish.
2016 Luna Estate Pinot Noir

Pinot Noir from New Zealand offers an exciting point of difference to the wines that we know and love from our own shores. The cool maritime climate of Martinborough creates a long growing season giving the grapes the perfect ripening conditions. This wine from Luna Estate is earthy and spicy with plenty of juicy red fruit that is complimented by an elegant use of oak.

2017 Traviarti 'Rosso' Nebbiolo/Barbera/Cabernet

Up in Beechworth, Simon Grant is quietly making some very smart wines under his label Traviarti [translated loosely to 'those led astray']). The 'Rosso' is a blend of Italian grapes Nebbiolo and Barbera as well as some Cabernet Sauvignon in roughly equal parts. It's a wonderfully approachable winter-time drink that is savoury and medium bodied with plush fruit.

2015 Oakdene 'Bernard's Cabernets' Merlot blend

The Bellarine Peninsula is front and centre with the 'Bernard's Cabernets' blend from Oakdene. Here the grapes can ripen fully yet still maintain a refreshing acidity. Predominantly made from Merlot, this Bordeaux blend has generous juicy black fruits, tobacco and soft textured tannins.

2016 Ségriès Côtes du Rhône Grenache blend

If you are looking for a versatile food wine then look no further than this Côtes du Rhône from Ségriès! Grenache dominant, with Syrah, Cinsault and Carignan making up the blend, it is medium-bodied and fruit-driven with black cherries, liquorice, leather and earth.

2015 Escondido 'Mistura' Reserva Tempranillo blend

Escondido is an ambitious project from award-winning sommelier Raul Moreno Vague. Fermented and bottled without any sulphur additions, 'Mistura' is built around Tempranillo for body and a core of earthiness, while Touriga Nacional, Tinta Barroca and Sousão contribute juicy blue fruits, freshness and richness of colour.

2018 De Iuliis Late Picked Semillon

The De Iuliis [de-ooli-iss] Semillon is sweet [but not too sweet]. On the palate it has dried apricot, marmalade and honey with a balancing lemon and lime acidity. Drink with fresh fruit and a wedge of Colston Bassett Stilton.