

MARION

DEADMAN'S DOZEN

MARCH 2018

2015 Tasi Prosecco

Veneto [Ita]

Tasi, meaning 'to be silent' [or more colloquially, 'shut up'] in the local Venetian dialect, is a Prosecco that we want to tell you all about. We'll let the wine do the talking, but we will say this - it is from a family owned vineyard that has been farmed organically for over 30 years. There is a fine bubble with ripe stone fruit and satisfying savoury character on the finish.

2015 Lavradores de Feitoria 'Douro Branco' Malvasia Blend

Douro [Por]

This wine has quickly become a bit of a favourite here at Marion. There is great excitement about the untapped potential for the fortified-focussed Douro Valley to make full but fresh table wines. Lavadores de Feitoria is a collective of 15 growers in the Douro, and their white blend is textural and fruity on the palate with a driving grapefruit acidity.

2013 Cocci Grifoni 'Adamantea' Passerina

Marche [Ita]

Passerina is a grape native to Marche in Italy, where Cocci Grifoni have put in a lot of energy into bringing it back from obscurity. This wine is proof the effort was worthwhile. It is highly aromatic with white flowers and fresh lime, initially bursting with tangerine, moving into riper stone fruit.

2015 Ziereisen 'Heugumber' Gutedel

Baden [Ger]

If you have had a drink on the shores of Lake Genève chances are you have drunk Chasselas. Just over the border in Germany where the grape is known as Gutedel, Zieresen are taking it to its highest potential. With a strong focus on viticulture and a hands-off approach in the winery, the result is a well-balanced and textural wine that is fruit driven yet dry, with a chalky, saline finish. Drink as an aperitif!

2015 Henty Farm Chardonnay

Henty [Vic]

We love this Chardonnay here at Marion. Henty Farm have made an elegant wine that is subtly oaked, lively on the tongue and quietly powerful. The first thing that you will noticed is lemons and apples but this gives way to smoky spice and white fruit - a beautiful struggle between power and delicacy. Tom thinks you should drink this while listening to Dummy by Portishead.

2017 Vinteloper 'Park Wine' Gewürztraminer 500ml

Adelaide Hills [SA]

This is your official fun-in-the-sun wine for this month! Vinteloper have picked the highly aromatic grape variety Gewürztraminer early to maintain freshness. The resulting wine isn't an explosion of Turkish delight on the senses as you sometimes find with this variety, instead it's focussed and savoury. Park Wine comes in a beer stubbie just to make sure that you don't take it too seriously.

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2017 Shadowfax 'Minnow' Rosé Grenache blend Geelong [Vic]

Could this be the Australian answer to Provençal Rosé? We think so!! Shadowfax have made a bone-dry wine that's pale in colour [some say salmon], with blackcurrant and strawberry, a hint of creamy texture and a long finish. The 2017 vintage sees Carignan and Cinsault dominating the fruit profile, while Mourvèdre and Syrah act in a supporting role, offering spice and a little charcuterie smokiness.

2017 Arfion 'Spring Pinot' Pinot Noir Yarra Valley [Vic]

Yarra Valley Pinot Noir at its freshest and gluggable! The grapes are gathered from three different vineyards as an expression of regional complexity. A portion of the fruit is fermented as a whole bunch [stalks and all] adding a little something savoury to the plush fruit character of the wine. It is fun and energetic with a vibrancy that is expertly crafted.

2017 Brash Higgins 'FRNC' Cabernet Franc McLaren Vale [SA]

Sommelier turned winemaker Brad Hickey AKA 'Brash Higgins' has crafted a Cabernet Franc that exudes sexiness - a perfect example of Cabernet Sauvignon's cool cousin. Medium bodied with well-balanced acidity this wine is complimented by velvet tannins and summer berries, with lingering spice and black pepper on the finish.

2017 Crisp Wines 'Shirazamatazz' Shiraz Yarra Valley [Vic]

Winemaker Dom Valentine is a disco-lover with a lion for a spirit animal, which features on the front label. Dom has crafted this Shiraz using a mixture of whole berry and whole bunch fermentation, resulting in a slurpable cool climate Shiraz that we think is spot-on drinking for the cooling autumnal nights to come. It is floral, heavily aromatic with noticeable plush cherries, raspberries and a smattering of green garden herbs.

2014 Murdoch Hill Cabernet Sauvignon Adelaide Hills [SA]

This Cabernet Sauvignon from Murdoch Hill is a silky wine that jumps out of the glass and wraps you in a blanket of mulberries and plums, spices and dried herbs. This wine is more full-bodied than would typically be associated with the Adelaide Hills region - the warm and dry 2014 vintage has produced a wine of balance and density. This wine is just screaming for a steak and we think you should definitely oblige.

2014 Royal Tokaji Company 'Late Harvest' Furmint Blend 500ml Tokaji [Hun]

This is the dessert wine for people who prefer to drink dry. Made with heavily ripe fruit rather than botrytis it is sweet, but not too sweet, and tropical, but not too tropical. There is quince and exotic fruits with a driving ripe lemon acidity. It's a wine that we buy every year and use it all-year round with fruit-based desserts and cheese.