

MARION

DEADMAN'S DOZEN

SEPTEMBER 2019

2018 Hillside Riesling

Clare Valley SA

For many of us, when we think of Australian Riesling it's the wines of the Clare Valley that come to mind - and rightly so. Warm days and cold nights are the perfect setting to produce world class grapes that have racy acidity and fresh vibrant fruit. The Hillside Riesling is dry and floral with zesty citrus and crunchy green apple, making for a great aperitif.

2018 Vanità Grillo

Sicily Ita

Sicily is a land of myth and legend [believed to be the island where Odysseus encounters the Cyclops] and has had a long history of agriculture, however it's only been relatively recently that Sicilian wines are seeing a resurgence in the public eye. This Grillo [pronounced gree-lo] is crisp and refreshing with lemon, apple blossom and a hint of spice - perfect for warm spring nights.

2018 Spinifex 'Lola' Semillon/Vermentino/Clairette

Barossa Valley SA

Spinifex are fairly new to the Barossa Valley, however their wines of purity and restraint have quickly become renowned. 'Lola' is a Semillon, Vermentino and Clairette blend that is grown on some of the region's oldest vines. This wine is textural on the palate with stone fruit, green fig and wild herbs.

2018 Terrason Aligoté

King Valley Vic

While working in Gevrey-Chambertin, winemaker Mark Lunt fell in love with Burgundy's 'underdog' white grape Aligoté. Bringing his new-found love back home to Australia, he sourced sustainably grown fruit from the King Valley. This wine is aromatic with white flowers, fresh lemon, pencil shavings and flint, it has bright acidity on the palate with green olive, and a savoury finish.

2017 Caviste Chardonnay

Yarra Valley Vic

Caviste, French for 'cellarmaster' or 'wine merchant', aptly represents the David Manning's journey through the wine world. After spending many years in sales roles for some of Australia's largest wineries and distributors he made the change to winemaking. His Chardonnay is textural yet focused, showing lemon curd, white stone fruit and fennel - elegant and vibrant with a long finish.

2019 Arfion 'Aromata' Pinot Gris/Gewürztraminer

Yarra Valley Vic

We tend to think of Pinot Gris as a white variety, however it is actually a variant of Pinot Noir - thus the grapes have quite a bit of colour when grown to full ripeness. With 'Aromata', Dave Mackintosh has used the skins to good effect creating a rosé with texture and structure, whilst the addition of Gewürztraminer contributes florals and spice.

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2018 Eventide 'Balnarring' Pinot Noir Mornington Peninsula vic

Winemakers on the Mornington Peninsula are very excited about the 2018 vintage, calling it 'near perfect'. It was warm and dry when it needed to be allowing the fruit to ripen evenly. Offering high-toned red fruit and a touch of spice, this wine really has such a great balance between approachability and complexity.

2018 Fleet 'Red' Syrah/Pinot Noir Gippsland VIC

Justin and Lisa Jenkins have swapped treading the boards in restaurants for treading through vineyards in East Gippsland. Their 'Red' is Syrah dominant with Pinot Noir making up the blend. Don't overthink this one - it's a lively, silky and beautifully made wine that is all about drinking and enjoying!

2017 Pittnauer 'Pitti' Zweigelt/Blaufränkisch Burgenland AUT

Gerhard Pittnauer is one of Austria's most highly acclaimed winemakers. Together with his wife Brigitte they look after a biodynamic vineyard that focuses on local varieties including Zweigelt and Blaufränkisch. 'Pitti' is a bright blend full of cherries, red liquorice and dried herbs. We think it's a great way to get a little more familiar with the world of Austrian red wines.

2018 Chaffey Bros. 'Pax Aeterna' Grenache Barossa Valley SA

Winemakers Daniel Chaffey Hartwig and Theo Engela endeavour to show the terroir of different vineyards within the Barossa Valley. Their wines are so connected to place that on the back of the bottle you'll find GPS co-ordinates for the location of the 84-year-old vines from which this was made. The 'Pax Aeterna' is medium weight, fresh and open with black cherries, ripe raspberries, a good kick of dry spice and leather.

2016 Crawford River Cabernet Merlot Henty VIC

We love the wines of Crawford River here at Marion! Organically farmed and dry grown, the grapes enjoy a very long growing season, producing fruit that is evenly ripe yet retains acidity - the perfect conditions for Bordeaux varieties. This blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot is driven and focused, showing blood plum, dark chocolate and cedar with firm yet fine tannins.

2017 Eric Bordelet Poiré 'Authentique' Perry Normandy FRA

Eric Bordelet is considered one of the world's greatest cider makers. Working biodynamically, he favours traditional varieties of apples and pears that have a perfect balance between sweet, bitter and sour tastes. The fruit for 'Authentique' is hand-picked from 50-year-old pear trees. It is lightly pétillant, with great balance and length - perfect with goat's cheese.