



IN THE PRESS MIXED CASE

Wine critics taste and review thousands of different bottles each year to help enthusiasts with their purchases, so when it comes to grapes, they certainly know their onions - so to speak! Our wines have received some impressive endorsements from journalists recently. We have selected a handful that have whetted their appetites.

Block 1A Chardonnay, The Lane 2018 – Adelaide Hills

The ideal combination of sunny fruit, elegant balance and structural precision common to all wines from this fantastic estate

Australian wines used to be typecast as bold and brash, but these days their winemakers are increasingly seeking ways to produce fresh, refined wines. Boutique winery The Lane is a case in point.

The Lane was founded by the Edwards family in the early 90s. Their wines have that exuberant, ripe Aussie fruit, with a nod to the Old World, thanks to the family's love of classic French wines and their unique spot of land in the Adelaide Hills. Here the vines benefit from high altitude breezes and cool air coming in from the Southern Ocean, giving all of the wines a signature freshness and minerality underscoring their seductive fruit.



Australia, Adelaide Hills



The Lane



100% Chardonnay

Fresh, vibrant and textured. Flavours of white nectarine, zesty citrus and orange blossom, with some toasty oak and a mineral finish.

- Old World elegance coupled with exuberant New World fruit.
- A great introduction to the outstanding Adelaide Hills region.
- Deliciously satisfying on its own, or try alongside roast chicken with garlic and lemon, poached salmon, or glazed pork chops

Corney & Barrow Périgord, Château Grinou 2019 – IGP Périgord

This organic Sauvignon-Sémillon blend, classic to the region, is inspired by the great wines of Bordeaux and offers tremendous value for money

Located near Bergerac, in south west France, Château Grinou was founded in 1978 on the grounds of a former monastery dating from the 12th century. Here, the Cuisset family have created an ecological haven in their vineyards. Driven by a desire to minimise human impact and to care for the land, Guy Cuisset and his sons insist on using only organic practices and are currently converting to biodynamic farming. They encourage biodiversity by growing cover crops between their vines and refuse to use chemical treatments to combat disease in this rain-swept corner of France. The quality and purity of this wine is a true testament to their dedication and unwavering belief in producing something delicious, while protecting the land for future generations. This refreshing blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Sémillon has been inspired by the top white wines of Bordeaux, which lie just one hundred kilometres away. Perfect for everyday drinking!



France, Périgord



Château Grinou



50% Sauvignon Blanc, 50% Sémillon

Vibrant citrus, tropical fruit and fresh herb notes from the Sauvignon Blanc grape are complemented by the honey and blossom aromas characteristic of the Sémillon variety. Crisp and refreshing.

- Small, family run estate in bucolic south-west France.
- Certified organic and supports biodiversity in the vineyards.
- Outstanding value for money.

Bourgogne Aligoté de Bouzeron, Domaine de Villaine 2017 - Bouzeron

“Above all, 2017 was a balanced vintage, in which each terroir expresses itself superbly.”

Pierre de Benoist, October 2018

The Bouzeron appellation, at the start of the Côte Chalonnaise, has won recognition through none other than Aubert de Villaine (co-owner of the legendary Domaine de la Romanée-Conti) and his wife Pamela. Now overseen by Aubert’s nephew Pierre de Benoist – who mirrors his uncle’s belief and ambition for Bouzeron, as well as his precise attention to detail. Here, the Aligoté grape, normally assigned the lesser *terroirs*, is given pride of place and allowed to ripen fully. The grapes come from old vines (up to 150 years) and a very special clone, Aligoté Doré – so much more complex than common or garden Aligoté Vert. Interestingly, as with Domaine de la Romanée-Conti and so many top vineyards, this land was originally chosen by monks, a fraternity that exhibits the Midas touch in their choice of vineyards.



France, Burgundy



Domaine de Villaine



100% Aligoté

Orchard fruit, yellow flowers and honey, with a salty tang of minerality, which to Pierre’s mind recalls the ancient sea bed of Burgundy.

- Richly-textured, complex – miles away from the spindly, green wines when the Aligoté grape was treated as an also-ran.
- Organic since 1986, certified since 1997.
- A fine accompaniment to seafood, light salads, poultry dishes and cheeses.

Naranjo Torrontel, Maturana Wines, 2019 – Loncomilla, Valle de Maule

Made from ancient 80-year-old vines grown in Loncomilla, deep in the Maule Valley, this tangy, aromatic ‘orange’ wine is produced in tiny quantities.

Like many others, José Ignacio Maturana and his brother Sebastian saw their family home and vineyards destroyed by Chile’s major earthquake in 2010. They were forced to rebuild the business, choosing to focus on premium wines that reflect their ‘terroir’. Winemaker José travelled to Burgundy in 2011, to understand from within how small producers were working traditionally to make high-end wines. Back in Chile, he and Sebastian founded Maturana Wines, a project working with vines which are at least 70 years old, by hand and organically. Their aim is to produce wines with the fruit expression and character of their native origins.



Chile, Maule Valley



Maturana Wines



100% Torrontel

This is an ‘orange’ wine – so-called because it stays in contact with the pinkish skins of Torrontel grapes for eight months, gaining an orange hue. It is aromatic, with notes of honey, orange peel, white flowers and a potpourri of spices such as cardamom. Refined and lean, it shows a fresh palate, with concentrated and complex flavours.

- A unique wine with a complex, aromatic profile, enhanced by skin contact.
- Made from ancient Torrontel vines, first planted by the Spanish conquistadors.
- Exciting and versatile, it has the freshness and structure to pair with many dishes.

Petit Verdot, Terroir Series, Bodega Ruca Malen 2017 - Mendoza

From the prestigious Luján de Cuyo sub-region of Mendoza, pioneering winery Ruca Malen produce one of the very few examples of 100% Petit Verdot in Argentina

Bodega Ruca Malen is a boutique winery located in the foothills of the majestic Andes mountains. Founded in 1998 by two spirited French pioneers, their aim is to create terroir-driven wines of great finesse. Their accomplished head winemaker, Noelia Torres, is on a constant quest for excellence and brings her passionate personality and feminine grace to the wines.

Scattered across Luján de Cuyo’s varied microclimates, Ruca Malen’s exceptional vineyard sites benefit from intense luminous sunshine and cooler nights, to grow complex and concentrated Petit Verdot grapes.



Argentina, Mendoza, Luján de Cuyo



Bodega Ruca Malen



100% Petit Verdot

Carefully aged in oak barrels for 12 months in the winery’s splendid cellar, this Petit Verdot is packed with dark, juicy blackberries, rich plums, with light savoury, almost leathery note. Bold and elegant, with smooth tannins and a persistent finish - a unique and memorable wine.

- Celebrates the ancient Bordeaux varietal Petit Verdot.
- The grapes heady perfume and dark, spicy fruit are brought out by the Argentine warmth.
- One of the few examples of 100% Petit Verdot from Argentina.

Hawequa, Mont du Toit, 2014 – Wellington

Dark-fruited and rich wine from boutique, family owned winery Mont du Toit.

Growing grapes for wine is a long-held family tradition for Stephan du Toit. His French Huguenot forefathers established a farm near Wellington on arrival in the Western Cape, more than 300 years ago. Stephan, a lawyer by trade, has run the Mont du Toit estate since 1996, continuing his family's legacy. Located at the foot of the Hawequa Mountain, the vineyards benefit from its cooling breezes and warm Mediterranean climate, which provide ideal conditions for growing premium red grapes. Stephan is dedicated to training his team of local workers in all aspects of viticulture and winemaking. Together, they meticulously care for the vines using traditional methods, keeping yields low and harvesting by hand. The blend components for their wines will vary by vintage, depending on which grapes produced the finest fruit that year. This wine is a nod to the Bordeaux style that Stephan is so fond of, with all the warmth and richness of the South African sun!



South Africa, Wellington



Mont du Toit Kelder



41% Merlot, 16% Cabernet Franc, 14% Petit Verdot, 14% Mourvèdre, 11% Tinta Barocca, 4% Shiraz

Juicy dark fruit and warm spice are harmoniously intertwined. There is a hint of smoke and firm tannins, all complemented by a lovely fresh finish.

- Boutique winery from South Africa's wine heartland.
- Meticulous care from picking the grapes to bottling the finished wine.
- Structured blend with a South African twist.