

Hillcrest Village Pinot Noir 2014

Meat, spice, perfume, intrigue; apart from anything else, this is enormous value for money. Stem, plum and woodsmoke flavours tang and seduce their way through the palate, firm tannin then bringing all the various flings and fancies home. Nothing here has been dumbed down. RRP \$25
hillcrestvineyard.com.au

Zema Estate Shiraz 2013

New discoveries are forever exciting, but it's always a joy when an old favourite comes up trumps. This is an example of a much-loved estate on song. There's a bit more throttle to this release and it works a treat. Grainy cherry-plum flavours with beefier notes/aspects, bolstered further by sweet, toasty, cedary oak. We're in business (due for release in October). RRP \$25
zema.com.au

Gartelmann Wilhem Shiraz 2014

The best examples of the great 2014 Hunter Valley vintage usually come with a premium price tag. This here, though, is a chance for all of us to get to enjoy what the fuss is about. It's medium weight but firm and insistent; it's all cherry-plum, earth and spice, but the way it manages the respective loads of sweetness and savouriness just feels so assured. Compelling. RRP \$25
gartelmann.com.au

Penny's Hill Cracking Black Shiraz 2014

There are always joys to be found in the Penny's Hill range. Little wonder this winery is now considered one of McLaren Vale's prime movers. This 'cracking' shiraz is neat and composed and yet has all the power you could ever need and want. Dark chocolate, dates, fresh blackberry and liquorice notes run proudly through the palate, aided and abetted by cords of tannin. RRP \$25
pennyshill.com.au

Tim Adams Cabernet Malbec 2012

This is good every year. It's tempting to take its quality for granted, but we really shouldn't; we should champion it at every opportunity. It's a marvel of a wine. A real red, full of flavour and structure, for now or later; you name it. Old school and new school at once, aflame with personality, regionality and life. It's dusty, curranty, shows elements of gun smoke and gum leaf, and swings decisively through the finish. Do not hesitate. RRP \$24
timadamswines.com.au

Kalleske Clarry's GSM 2015

The quality keeps rolling along. Cherries, spices, plums, candied citrus, liquorice allsorts; there's plenty going on and it's all welcome. Firm but velvety tannin ties it neatly together. Bonza stuff. These GSM blends aren't as heavy as certain other styles, but for drinkability and pure enjoyment, they take some beating. Exhibit A. RRP \$21
kalleske.com

Charles Cimicky The Autograph Shiraz 2014

It hits Barossa shiraz firmly in the centre of the bat. It's a sweet-spot wine. It's blackberried and dense, coffeed and mouthfilling, but it also offers various nuances of salted liquorice and earth; it's not a one-trick pony. If you're after a bigger red with a bit of guts, this is a wine with a promise of warm-hearted pleasure tucked up its sleeve. RRP \$25
cimickywines.com.au

Baileys of Glenrowan Petite Sirah 2014

Thoroughly tannic, but simultaneously bright and juicy, this is Modern History 101. Boysenberry, red cherry, tar and saturated plum, perhaps even some leaf matter. There's a real sense of urgency to the palate, despite the spreading wealth of tannin. If you've ever enjoyed a Baileys red wine, you will absolutely love this. RRP \$28
baileysofglenrowan.com.au

Fox Creek Shiraz 2014

Now we're talking. Price and quality, in the slot. Chocolate and blackberry, malt and liquorice flavours. And lots of them. It charges through the palate, but remains soft; it fills all corners but maintains an excellent sense of momentum. Fair to call this 'yum'. RRP \$20
foxcreekwines.com

Torzi Matthews Schist Rock Shiraz 2014

This label puts runs on the board at will, or seems to, but this 2014 is in particularly fine form. Power and personality. It's floral and meaty, but bulging with dark-berried fruit; it draws you in and keeps you there. Eden Valley written all over it; the pretty face, the powerful body. The finish is not a disappointment, the value exceptional. RRP \$20
torzimatthews.com.au

Woods Crampton The Primrose Path Shiraz 2014

Pure seduction is rarely found at this price. Sweet berry and liquorice flavours with a lick of dark chocolate. These flavours ooze through the palate in velvety style; rich, ripe and delicious. Ready to drink now. This is why we love McLaren Vale. RRP \$16
woods-crampton.com.au

Punt Road Airlie Bank Pinot Noir 2015

The whispers are getting louder. The 2015 vintage was a ripper in southern Victoria and pinot producers are championing at the bit to show their wares. Here's an early taste, and it's a ripping one. It's ripe with fruit and, especially given the price, has excellent density. It saw 15% whole bunches and it's taken them in its stride; it's complex and seductive. It's a steal. RRP \$22
puntroadwines.com.au



"The dominant era of the technocrat is over. Free and radical thinking doesn't just have a foothold; it's blown winds of change throughout the industry." *Campbell Mattinson*

