

PINOT NOIR

Pinot noir was *the* varietal of the Small Vigneron Awards. Significantly, four of Australia's best producers Montalto, Curly Flat, Home Hill and Paringa Estate feature strongly. Forget some the "cult" producers, such as the one who continues to receive glowing media praise despite making cloudy, unsound wines. Support those that fared well here. You will do no better.



2014 Montalto Pennon Hill Mornington Peninsula Pinot Noir

This is a pinot noir of great elegance and length of flavour. There's a hint of undergrowth complexity to the bright red berry/cherry nose and the tannins are supremely fine. Almost-subliminal oak completes the picture. The best-value pinot noir we've tasted this year. (\$32.00) ★★★★★

TROPHY WINNER

http://montalto.com.au/shop/?product_cat=wines&orderby=price-desc

2014 Montalto Merricks Block Mornington Peninsula Pinot Noir

An intense, fragrant, complex wine showing dark cherry, high quality oak and a hint of whole bunch character. The palate is intense, structured and long, but above all, beautifully balanced. (\$70.00) ★★★★★



2013 Yal Yal Rd Mornington Peninsula Pinot Noir A ripe, fleshy, strongly varietal pinot noir of impressive concentration. The palate is nicely structured, and, although this wine could be enjoyed now, it will reward 3-5 years' cellaring. A real bargain. (\$25.00) ★★★★★☆

<http://www.yalyal.com.au/order/>

2014 Montalto Estate Pinot Noir Complex freshly-tilled soil and mushroom aromas merge with those of fresh dark cherry. The palate offers excellent structure and fruit drive. (\$50.00) ★★★★★☆

2013 Home Hill Kelly's Reserve Tasmania Pinot Noir The dark cherry/strawberry aromas and flavours provide a lot of appeal and the fine, firm tannins contribute just-right structure. We haven't seen the best of this Huon Valley, Tas. pinot yet. (\$60.00) ★★★★★☆
<http://www.homehillwines.com.au/store#!/Red-Wines/c/12248323/offset=0&sort=normal>

2013 Curly Flat Pinot Noir The nose of this Macedon Ranges wine is very engaging, showing a delicate red berry perfume with positive input from stems and oak. The palate is long and silky, with a fine tannin structure. (\$50.00) ★★★★★☆ <http://www.curlyflat.com/buy>

2013 Paringa Estate The Paringa Mornington Peninsula Pinot Noir Great fruit. Great oak. The nose is very fragrant, hinting at rose petals, and the oak sits well with the varietal aromatics. It's close to Volnay in style, in that it is firm, fine, elegant and long flavoured, with early complexity. (\$90.00) ★★★★★☆ <http://www.paringaestate.com.au/>

2013 Home Hill Estate Tasmania Pinot Noir A densely packed, dark cherry-scented pinot of substance. Its freshness and structure suggest that a few years' cellaring would be beneficial. (\$36.00) ★★★★★☆

2013 Paringa Estate Mornington Peninsula Pinot Noir Another substantial pinot noir of considerable depth. The dark cherry fruit and oak come together very well. Cellar 2-3 years for best results. (\$60.00) ★★★★★☆

2013 Terindah Estate Bellarine Peninsula Reserve Pinot Noir This one has real density of colour, and is a big rich style in the Central Otago mould. It's a fleshy, spicy pinot with a lot of appeal. (\$80.00) ★★★★★

2014 Kings Yarra Valley Pinot Noir There's plenty of flavour for your dollar here. The rich fruit is well matched to the tannin structure and oak, and the freshness is commendable. (\$30.00) ★★★★★

2014 Montalto Main Ridge Block Mornington Peninsula Pinot Noir A supple, "juicy", spicy/herbal pinot with good length and balanced oak. (\$70.00) ★★★★★

2014 Paringa Estate Mornington Peninsula Pinot Noir Very impressive red berry fruit with a violets fragrance. The oak is a little too overt, but this wine ticks a lot of boxes. (\$60.00) ★★★★★

2014 Home Hill Kelly's Reserve Tasmania Pinot Noir A vibrant wine with attractive undergrowth notes and silky tannins that extend an already-long finish. (\$60.00) ★★★★★

2014 Home Hill Estate Tasmania Pinot Noir Very much dark cherry with spices and dried herbs. Good weight of fruit, with a little toasty oak. (\$36.00) ★★★★★

September 30, 2015

- 2014 Mornington Estate Pinot Noir (\$25.00) ★★☆☆
- 2014 Montara Jimmy Black Pinot Noir (\$20.00) ★★☆☆
- 2013 Santolin Individual Vineyard Pinot Noir (\$45.00) ★★☆☆
- 2014 Brangayne of Orange Pinot Noir (\$35.00) ★★☆☆
- 2013 Rowlee Wines Pinot Noir (Not yet available) ★★☆☆
- 2014 Wignalls Single Vineyard Reserve Pinot Noir ★★☆☆
- 2014 Dawson James Tasmania Pinot Noir ★★☆☆
- 2014 Wignalls Single Vineyard Pinot Noir ★★★
- 2013 Cannibal Creek Pinot Noir (\$32.00) ★★★
- 2013 Sidewood Pinot Noir (\$20.00) ★★★
- 2013 Barwon Ridge Pinot Noir (\$33.00) ★★★
- 2014 Balgownie Yarra Valley Estate Pinot Noir (\$45.00) ★★★
- 2014 Rowlee Wines Pinot Noir (Not yet available) ★★★
- 2014 Montara Chalambar Road Pinot Noir (\$70.00) ★★★
- 2014 Yal Yal Rd Pinot Noir (\$30.00) ★★★
- 2013 Curly Flat The Curly Pinot Noir (\$64.00) ★★☆☆
- 2014 Paringa Estate Robinson Single Vineyard Mornington Peninsula Pinot Noir (\$60.00) ★★☆☆
- 2014 Montalto Teurong Block Pinot Noir (\$70.00) ★★☆☆
- 2013 Lerida Estate Lake George Josephine Pinot Noir (\$65.00) ★★☆☆
- 2013 Dawson James Tasmania Pinot Noir (\$63.00) ★★☆☆
- 2013 Moorilla Estate Muse Pinot Noir (\$55.00) ★★☆☆
- 2013 Stefano Lubiana Estate Pinot Noir (\$48.00) ★★☆☆
- 2014 Coppabella Sirius Pinot Noir (\$60.00) ★★☆☆
- 2014 Colmar Estate Single Vineyard Pinot Noir (\$36.00) ★★☆☆
- 2014 Seville Estate Pinot Noir ★★☆☆
- 2014 Lerida Estate Lake George Cullerin Pinot Noir (\$35.00) ★★☆☆
- 2013 Wignalls Single Vineyard Pinot Noir ★★☆☆
- 2013 Provenance Golden Plains Pinot Noir (\$30.00) ★★☆☆

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- 2013 Riposte The Sabre Pinot Noir (\$35.00) ★★★
- 2013 Courabyra 805 Pinot Noir (\$36.00) ★★★
- 2014 Seville Estate The Barber Pinot Noir ★★
- 2014 Bromley Pinot Noir (\$30.00) ★★
- 2014 Montara Gold Rush Pinot Noir (\$25.00) ★★
- 2013 Laurel Bank Pinot Noir (\$33.00) ★★
- 2014 Bay of Shoals Pinot Noir (Not yet available) ★★
- 2013 Honey Moon Vineyard Adelaide H Pinot Noir Extra (\$50.00) ★★
- 2013 Ross Hill Pinnacle Series Pinot Noir (\$40.00) ★★
- 2014 Rockcliffe Third Reef Pinot Noir (\$30.00) ★★
- 2014 Rockcliffe Single Site Pinot Noir (\$45.00) ★★
- 2014 Cannibal Creek Pinot Noir (\$32.00) ★★
- 2008 Stefano Lubiana Sasso Pinot Noir (\$120.00) ★★
- 2012 Laurel Bank Pinot Noir (\$33.00) ★☆
- 2014 Yarralaw Springs Pinot Noir (\$20.00) ★☆
- 2014 Sidewood Pinot Noir (\$20.00) ★☆
- 2013 Sew & Sew Adelaide Hills Pinot Noir (\$35.00) ★☆
- 2011 Lakehouse Premium Reserve Pinot Noir ★☆
- 2012 Curlewis Reserve Pinot Noir (\$60.00) ★☆
- 2014 Lakehouse Single Vineyard Pinot Noir ★
- 2014 Colmar Estate Pinot Noir (\$30.00) ★
- 2014 The Vintner's Daughter Tumbarumba Pinot Noir (\$42.00) ★
- 2013 Curlewis Reserve Pinot Noir (\$60.00) ★
- 2009 Quarry Hill Pinot Noir (\$20.00) 0

Even the ★★★ wines (equivalent to about 15.00/20.0) are well worth trying. We're sure that in many shows they would have scored higher points.

Larry Cherubino is one of Australian winemaking's stars. Cherubino feature coming up shortly. To subscribe go to <http://winewise.net.au/register/>