

## TASTED THIS WEEK

**T**his range of wines is one of diversity and interest. The Longviews offer both quality and strong value for money, as do the Bleasdales and Yalumbas. The performance of alternate varieties in this report provides some indication of how much that segment can deliver.

**2016 Longview Adelaide Hills Queenie Pinot Grigio** Although there's some floral/banana fermentation ester showing, there's also plenty of fresh varietal aroma and flavour backed up by lively acidity. It's a very well made wine. (\$19.50) ★★★★★

**2016 Longview Whippet Adelaide Hills Sauvignon Blanc** An estery gooseberry/lime sauvignon blanc with excellent fruit and a long acid line. Ripe but racy. (\$19.50) ★★★★★☆

**2015 Longview The Kühl Adelaide Hills Grüner Veltliner** There's no doubt that grüner veltliner is thriving in the Adelaide Hills. GV is a fascinating grape in that it's aromatic, but leans to fennel, white pepper and spiciness. The palate of this wine offers impressive intensity supported by structural phenolics. (\$24.00) ★★★★★☆  
[www.longviewvineyard.com.au/](http://www.longviewvineyard.com.au/)

**2015 Yalumba Eden Valley Roussanne** Yalumba has been excelling with the white Rhône varieties for some time, and the latest instalment of the Roussanne definitely lives up to expectations. Peach and apricot show on both nose and palate, and there's a pleasant grip to the finish which is lifted by fresh acidity. (\$22.00) ★★★★★

**2015 Yalumba Eden Valley Viognier** Is this the world's best-value, most consistent viognier? Quite possibly. The classic apricot characteristics show out clearly, and the palate is packed with flavour supported by acidity and texture. (\$22.00) ★★★★★

**2014 Comus Ferguson Valley Chardonnay** There is a lot to love here – restrained varietal character, funky lees complexity etc, but the oak is just a little too assertive. Fresh acidity enlivens the very long finish. (\$70.00) ★★★★★

**2015 Bleasdale Adelaide Hills Chardonnay** Delightfully fresh and expressive, with nutty lees overtones and subtle oak. The palate is creamy and long. Very enjoyable drinking. (\$20.00) ★★★★★☆  
<http://www.bleasdale.com.au/>

**2012 Shingleback D Block Reserve McLaren Vale Shiraz** A very fresh red showing blackberry and aniseed aromas and flavours. It's quite firm, but has the flavour to cope with the structure. Give it 7-10 years. (\$55.00) ★★★★★

**2012 Shingleback D Block Reserve McLaren Vale Cabernet Sauvignon** It's definitely at the ripe end of the scale, but it retains blackcurrant aroma together with plenty of dark berry. The tannins are firm, but the palate offers varietal flavour. (\$55.00) ★★★★★

**2014 Tarrawarra K Block Yarra Valley Merlot** A savoury, medium-bodied red with just enough dark cherry and plum aroma and flavour providing enjoyable fresh drinking now. (\$35.00) ★★★★☆

**2015 Tarrawarra Yarra Valley Barbera** The bright purple colour is eye-catching and the perfumed violets, licorice and dark berry nose has a lot of appeal. After all that, the lively palate is no disappointment. Try it with pasta and duck ragu. (\$28.00) ★★★★★

**2014 Longview Yakka Adelaide Hills Shiraz** The Adelaide Hills region continues to show its strength with shiraz, and this one is a good example. It's vibrant and spicy, with good fruit weight and fine tannins. (\$27.00) ★★★★★

**2014 Bleasdale The Petrel Langhorne Creek Shiraz Cabernet Malbec** Shiraz aromas lead the way, with a hint of blackcurrant, then cabernet tannins emerge on a long, fine, dry palate. This is a beautifully crafted blend. (\$30.00) ★★★★★☆

**2013 Bleasdale Generations Langhorne Creek Shiraz** Vibrant mulberry aromas and flavours are at the forefront, and the palate is satisfying, with slightly furry tannins that need a little time to soften. (\$34.00) ★★★★★

**2014 Rudderless Vineyard McLaren Vale Grenache Mataro Graciano** A very attractive, approachable wine with ripe blueberry and raspberry characteristics. Although it shows well now, a few years' cellaring will be no problem. (\$34.00) ★★★★★

**2014 Rudderless Vineyard McLaren Vale Shiraz** A fresh blackberry style of shiraz that is enjoyable but one-dimensional. Acid shows on the finish. (\$34.00) ★★★

**2014 Rudderless Vineyard McLaren Vale Grenache** There's plenty of varietal flavour here, supported by welcoming tannins. Enjoy it in the short term. (\$34.00) ★★★☆

**2014 Comus Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon** An impressive cabernet with classic blackcurrant and tobacco leaf characteristics. The tannins are balanced and fine, but the oak is a little too prominent. (\$85.00) ★★★★★

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