

Other Dry White Varieties & Blends

Australian winemakers are certainly making progress with the “other” or “alternative” white varieties. The top half dozen (and more) wines are exemplary examples of their particular grape varieties, and reflect thoughtful viticulture and winemaking.



2017 Terindah Estate Single Vineyard Pinot Grigio A very impressive wine that is a standard-setter for the variety in Australia. Pear and quince flavours feature on a textural palate balanced by uplifting acidity. The phenolic grip contributes to the texture, and is beautifully balanced. (\$30.00) ★★★★★

http://www.terindahestate.com/store/p31/Terindah_Estate_2017_Pinot_Grigio.html

2015 Zerella La Gita McLaren Vale Arneis A complex, complete dry white that really plays the texture card to advantage. The honeysuckle and citrus notes are enhanced greatly by barrel ferment inputs, and the palate is long and satisfying. (\$30.00) ★★★★★

<https://www.zerellawines.com.au/product-page/2015-la-gita-arneis>

2017 Rusty Mutt Catnip McLaren Vale Viognier This is a multifaceted viognier with a long, creamy palate. It offers the typical varietal apricot aroma and flavour, but backs them up with nuances of ginger and honeysuckle. It's a stylish, vibrant wine that isn't too heavy. (\$22.00) ★★★★★

<https://www.rustymutt.com.au/>

2017 Artwine Wicked Stepmother Clare Valley Fiano The nose shows lemon, stone fruit and spice, with floral notes. Well managed phenolics play a textural role on the long, satisfying palate. (\$25.00) ★★★★★
<https://www.artwine.com.au/>

2017 Stage Door Wine Co. White Note Eden Valley Grüner Veltliner The fragrant floral/citrus nose is enticing, and the long, intense, racy palate delivers the goods. (\$25.00) ★★★★★
<http://stagedoorwineco.com.au/>

2017 Eden Hall Eden Valley Grüner Veltliner Citrus and stone fruits show out on the nose, together with a whiff of white pepper. The palate offers length, freshness and concentration. (\$35.00) ★★★★★
<http://edenhall.com.au/>

2015 Witches Falls Wild Ferment Fiano A complex, interesting wine showing stone fruit and citrus with some barrel ferment nuttiness. The palate is very satisfying and creamily textured. (Not available) ★★★★★

2017 Artwine Prego Clare Valley Pinot Grigio Fresh and lively, with apple-like aromas and a flavoursome palate balanced by acidity and well handled phenolics. Drinks well now. (\$22.00) ★★★★★
<https://www.artwine.com.au/product/Prego-Pinot-Grigio-2017?pageID=70C099CA-94FF-FC48-B4FA-2132CAFA8EC7&sortBy=DisplayOrder&maxRows=10&>

2016 Ottelia Limestone Coast Pinot Gris Very fresh and fruity, showing pear and freshly-cut green melon aromas. There's a touch of sweetness which is balanced by acidity. Enjoyable drinking now. (\$22.00) ★★★★★

2017 Higher Plane Margaret River Fiano This attractive wine offers white peach and floral aromatics together with a pleasing palate of good weight, with balanced, chalky phenolics. (\$22.50) ★★★★★
<https://www.higherplanewines.com.au/product>

2016 Topper's Mountain Gewürztraminer Shows the classic varietal aromas and flavours of lychee and musk stick. A well made, expressive wine. (\$35.00) ★★★★★

2015 Topper's Mountain Bricolage Blanc (Chardonnay, sauvignon blanc, gewürztraminer & petit manseng) Quite perfumed, with jonquil overtones. The palate offers good persistent flavour with a firm, but balanced, finish. (\$35.00) ★★★★★

2016 Hahndorf Hill Adelaide Hills GRU Grüner Veltliner ★★★★★

2017 Risky Business King Valley Pinot Gris ★★★★★

2016 Blue Gables Gippsland Pinot Gris ★★★★★

2017 Sittella The Calling Verdelho ★★★★★

2016 Twisted River Viognier ★★★★★

2017 Symphony Hill Wines New England Gewürztraminer ★★★★★

2017 Symphony Hill Wines North West Victoria Fiano ★★★★★

2016 Sew & Sew Wines Adelaide Hills Sashiko Fiano ★★★★★

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2017 Artwine In The Groove Adelaide Hills Grüner Veltliner ★★★
2017 Lenton Brae Margaret River Pinot Blanc ★★★
2016 Downderry Trio (Semillon, fiano, chenin blanc) ★★★
2017 Juniper Crossing Small Batch Margaret River Fiano ★★★
2016 Koppamurra Wines Adelaide Hills Pinot Gris ★★★
2017 Heafod Glen Swan Valley Viognier ★★★
2017 Hahndorf Hill Adelaide Hills Pinot Grigio ★★★
2017 Mandoon Estate Swan Valley Verdelho ★★★
2015 Hahndorf Hill Adelaide Hills GRU 2 Grüner Veltliner ★★★
2017 Sussex Squire Poachers Run Clare Valley Pinot Grigio ★★★
2016 Seabrook Wines Lineage Adelaide Hills Pinot Grigio ★★★
2015 Lillypilly Vermentino ★★★
2017 Downderry Fiano ★★★
2016 Old Plains Wine Co Longhop Adelaide Hills Pinot Gris★★
2017 Terindah Estate Single Vineyard Pinot Gris★★
2017 Moffatdale Ridge Verdelho★★
2017 Faber Vineyard Swan Verdelho★★
2009 Gecko Valley Special Reserve Verdelho★★
2016 The Overflow Estate 1895 Vermentino★★
2017 Trescowthick Picture Series Adelaide Hills Pinot Gris★★
2017 1838 Wines Pinot Gris★★
2017 Heafod Glen Swan Valley Verdelho★★
2016 MoFro Wines White (Semillon 80%, Chardonnay 12.2%)★★
2017 Artwine Madame V Clare Valley Viognier★★
2016 Scion Viognier★★
2017 Hahndorf Hill Adelaide Hills White Mischief Grüner Veltliner★
2016 The Overflow Estate 1895 Fiano★
2016 Catlin Adelaide Hills Grüner Veltliner★
2016 Delatite Estate Pinot Gris★
2017 Little Wine Co Vermentino★
2016 Cape Barren Wines Funky Goose Adelaide Hills Grüner Veltliner★
2016 Delatite Estate Dead Man's Hill Gewürztraminer★
2016 Whistling Kite Biodynamic Viognier★
2017 Lerida Estate Pinot Grigio★
2016 Terra Felix Mornington Peninsula Pinot Gris

This is a fascinating category of white wine, and we urge you to put at least a toe in the water. Fiano and grüner veltliner (affectionately known as “grooner”) will continue to gain in popularity.

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