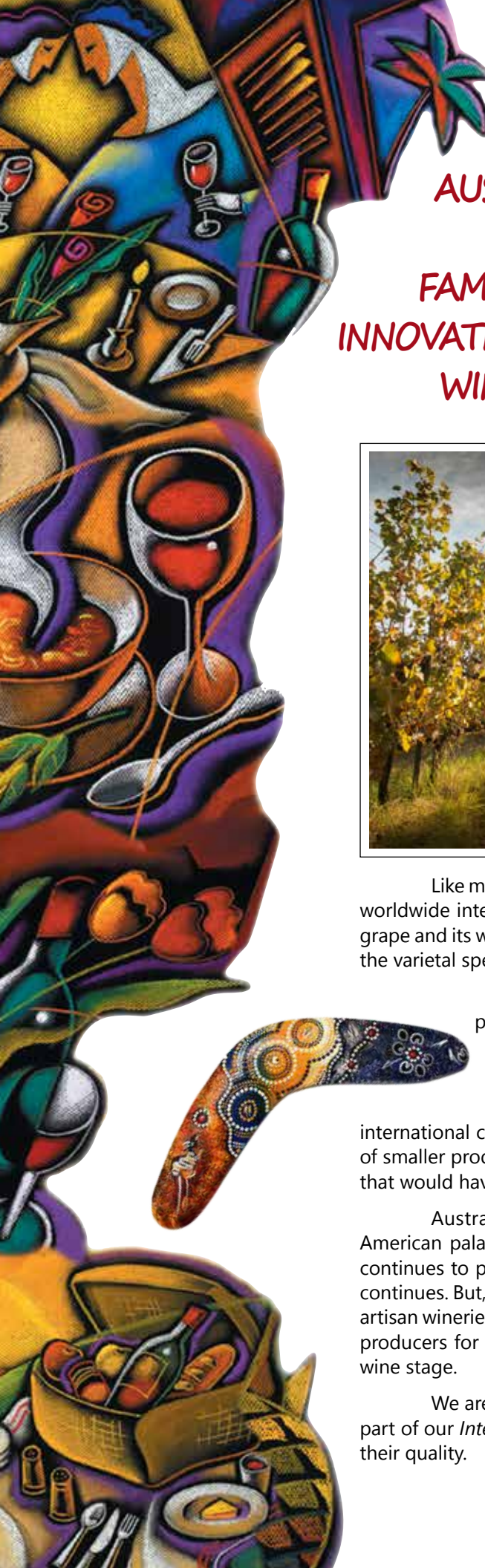


GOLD MEDAL WINE CLUB

Taste the Adventure!

Australia





WITH OVER 200 YEARS OF VITICULTURE AND WINEMAKING HISTORY, AUSTRALIA IS A COUNTRY RICH IN OLD VINES AND MULTI-GENERATIONAL WINEMAKING FAMILIES WITH A YEARNING TO EXPLORE AND INNOVATE - THE MAKINGS OF AN EXTRAORDINARY WINE COUNTRY THAT IS UNLIKE ANY OTHER.



Like most wine-producing countries, Australia has benefitted mightily from the increased worldwide interest in wine. Much of its success can be traced to the resurgence of the Shiraz grape and its worldwide effect on producers of Syrah. A number of countries have even changed the varietal spelling of Syrah to Shiraz to benefit from the grape's resounding popularity.

As recently as thirty or forty years ago, most Australia wines were popularly produced and priced, but that has changed in a dramatic fashion. A number of boutique wineries have suddenly surfaced in the country with particular emphasis on terroir-driven varietals with focus on microclimates and limited production.

More importantly, Australia wines have continued to score highly in international competitions and highly-rated wine industry periodicals. A number of smaller producers command high prices for their award-winning wines, a fact that would have been thought nearly impossible three decades ago.

Australia wines have always been user-friendly, particularly for the American palate and its taste for softer, high-fruit-intensity wines. The country continues to produce these popular wines and will do so as long as the demand continues. But, the future of great Australia wines lies in the smallish, boutique-style artisan wineries that seem to have popped up overnight. Kudos to these excellent producers for attempting to elevate their country's wine status on the world wine stage.

We are proud to offer these three selections from Down Under as part of our *International Wine Club*. We know you will be impressed with their quality.



REGION SPOTLIGHT:
Langhorne Creek

The Langhorne Creek region benefits from the presence of the 'Lake Doctor,' a natural occurrence when hot air moves over the cold waters of nearby sizeable Lake Alexandria during summer afternoons. This cooling effect aerates the canopies and lowers the temperature of the fruit. This allows the fruit to ripen slowly and develop more complex flavor compounds.

Soils are free draining, deep sandy loam (only an hour drive from Adelaide) and vineyards occupy over 16,000 acres, making Langhorne Creek Australia's largest cool-climate premium grape growing region and the workhorse of South Australia's burgeoning wine industry.



REGION SPOTLIGHT:
Yarra Valley

With a history that spans back to 1838, the Yarra Valley provides cool mountainside vineyards along with a warmer valley floor. Located an hour east of Melbourne, the foothills of the Victorian Alps provide an excellent mineral base for varietals such as the Pinot Gris and Pinot Noir. There are more than 300 vineyards in Yarra Valley encompassing some 6,000-plus acres of vineyards and is home to more than 160 wineries.

Yarra Valley's climate is cooler than Bordeaux but warmer than France's Burgundy region. Soils vary between loamy sand to clay loam with red-brown clay subsoils that are frequently rocky to brilliantly colored red volcanic soil. These layers are deep and fertile and quite hospitable to vines.

Soils include red-brown earths, soft sands and dark cracking clays and hold very little water. Drip irrigation is a must in McLaren Vale, that is better known for its big, intensely fruity reds than for its whites. Fresh sea breezes off the Gulf St. Vincent help moderate the growing season and help retain acidity and develop structure. Many McLaren Vale wineries command extremely high prices on the international wine spectrum, a tribute to the area's blossoming popularity.



REGION SPOTLIGHT:
McLaren Vale

No Australian wine region has benefited from the world wine explosion more than McLaren Vale, which is situated some 20 to 25 miles south of Adelaide. A Mediterranean climate, McLaren Vale's first vineyards were planted in 1838. Shiraz is the king here and accounts for more than half of the region's total crush.



WINE REGIONS OF AUSTRALIA

Australia is home to an amazing array of diverse climates and these are reflected in the country's unique and regionally distinct wine growing regions. This month's features wineries are from South Australia and Victoria, two of the country's top wine producing states. South Australia is responsible for almost 50% of Australia's annual production and it is home to some of the most famous regions, historic estates, and oldest vines in the country. It is the driest state, but the Murray River supplies critical water for irrigation and the multitude of soils and varying altitude allows for a wide range of wine styles. Although the second smallest state, Victoria is home to more regions and individual wineries than any other state in Australia. It also has the greatest diversity of regional and site climates, which allows for the production of virtually every imaginable wine style.

Victoria

- Murray Darling
- Swan Hill
- Goulburn Valley
- Rutherglen
- Glenrowan
- Beechworth
- King Valley
- Alpine Valleys
- Strathbogie Ranges
- Upper Goulburn
- Heathcote
- Bendigo
- Pyrenees
- Macedon Ranges
- Sunbury
- Grampians
- Henty
- Geelong

Yarra Valley

- Morrington Peninsula
- Gippsland

South Australia

- Clare Valley
- Barossa Valley
- Eden Valley
- Riverland
- Adelaide Plains
- Adelaide Hills
- McLaren Vale**
- Langhorne Creek**
- Padthaway
- Southern Flinders Ranges
- Kangaroo Island
- Southern Fleurieu
- Currency Creek
- Mount Benson
- Wrattonbully
- Robe Coonawarra
- Mount Gambier

Australia: Fun Facts!

- Australia's first grapevines were planted in 1788 at Sydney's Farm Cove. These vines were brought by Captain Philip in one of the ships of the First Fleet.
- The Great Barrier Reef is the largest eco-system in the world. It is made up of nearly 2,500 individual reefs and is visible from space! It stretches halfway down the eastern coast of the country, and is approximately 2,600 km long!
- Vegemite is an Australian food paste made from yeast extract. It is very salty and most often spread on a piece of buttered toast. Aussies swear by it!
- Over 300 different languages and dialects are spoken in Australia, including 45 indigenous languages.
- The Australian continent is blessed with some of the oldest soils on Earth and the most varying climatic conditions. Together, they have beautifully supported more than 100 different grape varieties planted across 65 wine regions around the country.
- Australia is home to an estimated 3,000 wineries.
- The world's oldest fossil, which is about 3.4 billion years old, was found in Australia.
- Western Australia is home to a number of Pink Lakes, such as Lake Hillier.
- The Australian Alps receive more snow than Switzerland.
- 80% of the country's animals are unique to Australia. The animals are some of the most interesting in the world, from cuddly marsupials to a huge variety of birds.
- Langmeil Freedom Vineyard, founded in 1843 in the Barossa Valley, is the oldest vineyard in Australia.
- The Aboriginal people have lived in Australia for at least 50,000 years. They are generally considered to have the oldest living culture on Earth.
- There are more kangaroos than people in Australia.



Photos, top to bottom, left to right:

- **Shirvington Winery:** The Shirvington winemaking team strolls through their estate vineyards, nestled in one of Australia's top wine regions, McLaren Vale. The Shirvingtons chose this area for their family winery for its ability to consistently produce outstanding wines of great character and quality. McLaren is especially renowned for its red wines (Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon).
- **Brothers in Arms Winery:** Owned and operated by the fifth generation to live at Metala Estate property, Brothers in Arms Winery reflects the spirit of their family tradition through high quality, elegant wines that showcase Langhorne Creek's unique winegrowing region. The family continues to seek new ways to highlight wine style, regional character and limited impact on the land so it may continue to thrive for generations to come.
- **Innocent Bystander Winery:** Since 1998, Innocent Bystander Winery has forged a reputation for delivering some of the Yarra Valley's most consistent, over-performing, varietal wines that are strikingly well balanced. From Pinot Noir to Pinot Gris, Innocent Bystander offers a range of wines, made with the highest quality fruit possible.

THE FLAG OF AUSTRALIA



The Australian flag features a blue background with the Union Jack in the upper left corner. A large white seven-pointed star known as the Commonwealth

Star is just beneath it and to the right is a representation of the Southern Cross constellation, made up of five white stars. The Union Jack acknowledges the history of British settlement. The Commonwealth Star represents the unity of the six states and the territories of the Commonwealth of Australia. The Southern Cross constellation was chosen because it can only be seen from the southern hemisphere and is a reminder of Australia's geography. The flag was adopted on September 3, 1901, the date proclaimed as Australian National Flag Day.



Add it to your shipment of wines for just \$34.95!

Taste the Adventure!

Our unique "Adventure Package" takes you beyond the wines to experience delectable selections of imported gourmet treats from the featured country. We take the time to search out regional delights to pair with the wines. All products are exclusive imports that represent the wine region along with the local culture.



FEATURED AUSTRALIAN WINERIES

With a fearless attitude and innovative approach, a trio of award-winning, terroir-driven wineries explore the viticultural possibilities in three of Australia's top wine producing regions and craft truly exciting wines.

SHIRVINGTON

Founded more than 25-years ago in the McLaren Vale District of South Australia by Paul and Lynne Shirvington, Shirvington Winery has developed into one of the prime wineries of South Australia. It utilizes two main vineyards, Redwine in Willunga and Manjalda in McLaren Vale for its estate selections.

Paul was originally an accountant and the couple, who had enjoyed the imbibing aspects of wine, decided a rural lifestyle was more to their liking. Shirvington's first vintage of Cabernet Sauvignon was named Wine of the Year at the McLaren Vale Wine Show and the next year, their Shiraz was given a 99 Point score by *Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate*. From that point, Shirvington Winery has never looked back.

Shirvington continues to be a top producer in the ever-increasing environment that is the Australia wine industry. We're betting this quality producer continues at their present level for many years.

Winemaker: Kim Jackson

Female winemaker Kim Jackson studied chemistry at Adelaide University and wound up with an agricultural science degree in 1998 that eventually vaulted her into the wine industry. She has worked in California's Sonoma Valley and Burgundy's Nuit St. Georges area and has been with Shirvington since 2005. She is also winemaker for the highly regarded Henry's Drive Vignerons that was formerly featured as an International Wine Club selection, some four years ago.

"I have always been attracted to producers who strive to 'bring the best' out of their vineyards and have a passion for making, what I call, 'real wines' of quality and distinction," Kim explained. "Even skipping vintages of their popular label because they don't think the grapes meet their high standards and what their customers have come to expect of their wines. The Shirvingtons and their mind-set easily fits my criteria."

BROTHERS IN ARMS WINERY

Established in 1998, this winery located on the Metala Estate is owned and operated by the fifth generation of the original owner's Fromby and Adams families. Some vines on the Metala Estate are more than 120 years old and continue to produce high-quality Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon fruit. The resultant wines from these old vines have garnered a significant number of international prizes and accolades.

A modern, state-of-the-art winery was completed in 2002 and has reinforced the company's sustainability practices and relies on rainwater (captured and kept in a 24-acre woodlot) along with a sophisticated drip system from nearby (2 miles away) Lake Alexandria for its irrigation requirements. A revegetation program on the estate covers around 10% of the existing land and has been

the landmark for such programs in the Langhorne Creek growing area.

Guy and Liz Adams and their children own and operate Brothers in Arms Winery in Southern Australia and are famous for their full-bodied wines that are among the finest in South Australia. It also claims to be the owner of the oldest Cabernet Sauvignon vineyard in the world.

Winemaker: Jim Urlwin

Urlwin is a native of the famed Barossa Valley and has been in the Australia wine industry for more than 16 years. He studied winemaking at Adelaide University, but insists he learned his profession by working various jobs in the business, from lab work to being a cellar rat. Urlwin initially made wines in the Barossa Valley, Clare Valley and in McLaren Vale. He joined Brothers in Arms Winery more than a decade ago and has been credited with making world-class wines since that time.

INNOCENT BYSTANDER

Originally founded by Phil Sexton, Innocent Bystander was bought by the much larger Brown Brothers in 2016. While its history dates back more than a hundred years, its recent exploits (particularly in Pinot Noir and Chardonnay) has elevated Innocent Bystander to the higher echelons of Australian wineries.

Innocent Bystander is an estate-driven entity from the Yarra Valley that has emerged as one of Australia's top wine-producing areas. It was first introduced in 2003 and immediately attained cult status with an adoring client base. Innocent Bystander sources grapes from a number of wine growing areas with the supposition that individual growing areas (Yarra Valley for Pinot Gris, for example) are more suited to specific varieties. Creative labeling and many on-premise (restaurant) placings have significantly increased Innocent Bystander's national and international reputations.

Just one hour east of Melbourne, Innocent Bystander's unique bar/restaurant in Healesville is a must for the wine-inspired aficionado.

Winemaker: Joel Tilbrook

Tilbrook admits to having interest in agriculture since childhood. Later, he was drawn to wine and secured a job at Norman Wines in the Adelaide Hills. He joined Brown Brothers in 2004 and was delighted to find the company "open to new ideas as well as a culture of including people and encouraging people to give new ideas into the business, to be open, and to challenge in discussion about the way things are done." Today, he is chief winemaker for Brown Brothers and Innocent Bystander. His duties include fruit sourcing, stylistic direction of wine blending, and producing wines that over-deliver in terms of value and quality. He also serves as a top wine show judge throughout Australia.



The International Wine Club features exclusively imported hard-to-find wines of the world strictly for members of the Gold Medal Wine Club.



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www.GoldMedalWineClub.com

**GOLD MEDAL
SPECIAL
SELECTION**



SHIRVINGTON 2013 SHIRAZ

McLaren Vale, South Australia

Produced from the Shirvington family's estate Redwind Vineyards in the McLaren Vale region of South Australia, the 2013 Shiraz is a seamless and vibrant wine that shows off the incredible terroir of this world-class wine growing region. An incredibly fragrant nose is apparent upon pouring the wine, with notes of juicy, ripe blackberries, red cherries, perfumed violets and lightly toasted cinnamon spice all coming together. Elegant and understated tannins support the fresh fruit flavors on this beautiful wine, and a restrained use of oak further allows the fruit to shine from beginning to end. The Shirvington 2013 Shiraz pairs well with meat dishes and hard cheese. Aged 19 months in oak. 100% Shiraz. Enjoy!

You Save 29% to 35%
off Winery Retail Price

Winery Retail Price \$60.00/btl.	2+ btls.	6+ btls.	12+ btls.
2 & 3 Btl. Members:	\$42.00	\$40.83	\$40.00
4+ Btl. Members:	\$42.00	\$40.00	\$38.75

**GOLD MEDAL
SPECIAL
SELECTION**



BROTHERS IN ARMS 2016 'NO. 6' CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Metala Vineyards, Langhorne Creek, South Australia

The Brothers in Arms 2016 'No.6' Cabernet Sauvignon was named for the 6th generation of family in line to run the winery (owners Guy and Liz Adams' children, Myles and Emily). Produced from the family's Metala Vineyards in Langhorne Creek of South Australia, this Cabernet Sauvignon comes from one of Australia's oldest wine regions where the unique practice of deliberate annual flooding of the Bremer River provides the necessary irrigation for the vines. Deeply colored, this elegant Cabernet Sauvignon offers aromas and flavors of blackberries, wild fennel and red currants. A savory palate with elegant tannins builds to an impressively long, lingering finish. Try pairing the Brothers in Arms 2016 'No. 6' Cabernet Sauvignon with steak and wild mushrooms. Aged 18 months in oak. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Enjoy!

You Save 15% to 30%
off Winery Retail Price

Winery Retail Price \$26.00/btl.	2+ btls.	6+ btls.	12+ btls.
2 & 3 Btl. Members:	\$22.00	\$20.33	\$19.50
4+ Btl. Members:	\$22.00	\$19.50	\$18.25

91 POINTS
James Suckling



INNOCENT BYSTANDER 2017 PINOT GRIS

Yarra and King Valleys, Victoria, Australia

Produced from a pair of vineyards in the Yarra and King Valleys of Victoria, Australia, the Innocent Bystander 2017 Pinot Gris is a superbly quaffable wine. Aromas of freshly cut pears, snow pea shoots and lemon thyme complement the lively palate with flavors of lime flowers, miso, and fresh minerality. Crisp, complex, bone dry and moreish with a tangy lemon sorbet finish, the Innocent Bystander 2017 Pinot Gris pairs well with beer-battered whiting with chips and tartare, fresh oysters, goat cheese and chargrilled vegetables. 100% Pinot Gris. Enjoy!

You Save 15% to 37%
off Winery Retail Price

Winery Retail Price \$17.00/btl.	2+ btls.	6+ btls.	12+ btls.
2 & 3 Btl. Members:	\$14.50	\$12.83	\$12.00
4+ Btl. Members:	\$14.50	\$12.00	\$10.75