

Top 10 Australian fine wines to watch

Australia is producing the best wines in its history. To celebrate this, we've rounded up ten we believe have great fine wine potential and are set to be the stars of the future.



In the winery, vintners are becoming ever more retrained in their use of oak and alcohol levels are decreasing, resulting in elegant wines that can stand shoulder to shoulder with the best of the Old World.

There has never been a more exciting time for Australian fine wine as the country's different regions become flag-bearers for specific grapes – the Barossa and McLaren Vale for Shiraz; Margaret River and Coonawarra for Cabernet; Mornington Peninsula for Pinot; Margaret River, Yarra Valley and Beechworth for Chardonnay; the Clare and Eden Valleys for Riesling; the Hunter Valley for Semillon and Tasmania for

sparkling wine, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.

While tightly held prejudices mean many European collectors have yet to open their minds to the potential of Australian fine wine, and the value to be found there in comparison with Bordeaux and Burgundy, things are starting to change, and in the UK there is a small but growing appetite for the country's best labels.

While Penfolds Grange and Henschke Hill of Grace will set you back serious sums, if you sniff out Australia's rising stars before their prices skyrocket, there are bargains to be had on the fine wine front. We've rounded up ten wines we believe have great fine wine potential and are set to be the stars of the future.

Cloudburst Margaret River Chardonnay



The brainchild of New Yorker Will Berliner, this tiny-production wine is fast gaining international acclaim. Having quickly achieved cult status and the prices to match, the grapes for Berliner's Chardonnay are biodynamically grown from a tiny plot two miles from the ocean in Margaret River.

Under 3,000 bottles are made each vintage and aged for around 10 months in one-third new oak. Jamie Goode describes the 2013 vintage as, "Fine, toasty and ripe with some spiciness. Real finesse on the nose with hints of fennel. Stylish, warm palate with nice weight of pear and peach fruit. Refined and pure."