



the bullionaire

BULLION 22A

It's Gru VEE Baby



Danube Valley, Wachau, Austria

I have long wanted to present a Gruner Veltliner from Austria and Dan Sharp our sommelier has delivered. In the US it's known as "Gru Vee" and is a sensational drinking white wine that is very versatile with a lot of dishes. The 2017 vintage seems to be popular this time around with three wines coming from this year. It is great that the wineries have done a lot of the cellaring for us. First we have the Gru Vee, then we have a sensational Cabernet Blend from the Coal River in Tasmania and a Shiraz from Barossa Valley royalty. I really like to drink some wines with a bit of age as they start to come into their own and offer more balance and complexity. The last red is from a favourite region of ours, a Grenache blend from the Cote Du Rhone.

So, there are the first 4 wines of 2022. We really are in the "Roaring Twenties" now and I cannot wait to see what lies ahead.

Matt the Bullionaire



2017 MAGPIE ESTATE THE SACK SHIAZ *Barossa Valley*

This is a classic and very drinkable Barossa Shiraz. The winery was formed when a very well-known winemaker in the region, Rolf Binder, joined up with a UK importer to create a range of wines they targeted for the International markets, initially the UK.

The fruit is sourced from 5 different vineyards, mostly in Ebenezer and Greenock with some from the Western Ridge of the Barossa. With almost 5 years of age, the fruit, oak and tannins have really melded together and totally in sync. It has an opaque black, crimson colour. Liqueurice all sort aromas leap out of the glass, followed by some black cherries, dark chocolate, vanillin oak and spicy notes. It has an opulent feel in the mouth with soft velvety tannins.



2017 WEINGUT JAGER GRUNER VELTLINER STEINFEDER *Wachau, Austria*

Weingut Jäger is a very traditional Wachau producer in the World Heritage town of Weißenkirchen. They have been producing wine since the 17th century and in their historic vaulted cellars since 1837.

They farm 7 hectares of vines over 50 small plots predominantly on steep terraces. Low yields and careful grape selection work at harvesting to ensure concentrated and clean fruit. Production sits at just over 1000 dozen per year, so they are a tiny produce.r

Weingut Jäger's style is very elegant. Always lower in alcohol, they possess a freshness that is missed by some of the blockbuster producers of this region.

Pretty and expressive nose of lifted florals, delicate citrus and pear with a dusting of spice and light peppery notes. It starts with strong stony minerality moving to juicy lime flavours and light savoury spice. Very pure.



2020 DOMAINE LA REME JEANNE UN AIR *Cote Du Rhone, France*

Domaine LA Reme Jeanne is a small player in an out of the way location of the Cote du Rhone. They only farm 35 hectares but they tick a lot of boxes, quality over quantity as they say.

Full of bright red fruit, this is a beautifully crafted and energetic wine. It jumps out of the glass with scents of pure, just-picked raspberries and cherries and an aromatic garrigue bouquet of lavender, sage, thyme and violet. Just as agile on the palate, it's supple and fragrant, with a gentle caress of tannins adding to its crunchy-fruited drinkability.

Cote Du Rhone continues to be a favourite at Bullion and this wine with its freshness and drinkability just shows us why we love the wines and region so much.



2017 DOMAINE A STONEY VINEYARD *Coal River, Tasmania*

Tasmania is generally about Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Sparkling wine right! But in the right locations, Cabernet can shine. This is the third label of the winery but calling "Stoney Vineyard" a third label is an injustice. It's from vines planted in 1973, made from 90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Cabernet Franc, 4% Merlot and 2% Petit Verdot. The fruit is handpicked and sorted at the winery, then matured in French Oak for 24 months, before cellaring in the bottle for another 2 years before release. This sort of stuff just does not happen at this price.

Domaine A is a 20ha property in the Coal River Valley of Southern Tasmania, recently purchased by David Walsh of MONA museum fame. This wine is a homage to the original owner's love of Bordeaux and it really is more European than your typical Aussie Cab. There is a great interplay between the fruit and tannins on the palate, showing lovely blackcurrant, dried herbs and glossy chocolate. A very serious wine indeed.



Stu Freeman and Matt Eagan, The Bullion Cellars Team



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