



the bullionaire

BULLION 25C

Emerging in the Spring

Where has the year gone, I am writing this newsletter at the beginning of August, and you will be reading it in September. Now it is bloody cold and wet, but soon it will be spring, and the warmer weather will begin. Matt Dunne, our long-term Sommelier, has taken this in mind with some great medium bodied red wines and a sensational 8-year-old Riesling from Mosel in Germany. Despite the red wines being medium bodied, they are all pack a punch in their own way. We start with two Tempranillo's, one is from the ancestral home in Rioja Spain and the other from the cool climate Canberra region. We thought it would be interesting to have these two Tempranillo's side by side as a comparison. As whilst there are some similarities, they are quite different wines. The last red is a Nebbiolo from a great winery in Victoria. Nebbiolo is the famous grape variety of the wines from Barolo in Italy and this wine lives up to their lofty reputations.

The 8 year old Riesling from Mosel in Germany is from a rising star of the area and is quite sensational. You don't get the chance to try aged white wines very often and this shows why aged Riesling is one of my favourite wine styles and offers insane value when compared to the other great white wine, Chardonnay.

I hope you will enjoy these wines as much as we did tasting them and bring on the warmer weather.

Matt, The Bullionaire.



Kröv wine region Germany



Markus Hüls



2023 NICK O'LEARY SEVEN GATES TEMPRANILLO

Hill Tops, Canberra, NSW

Situated in the picturesque Hall Valley, just outside the ACT, this estate incorporates a modern winemaking facility and a mature 5-hectare vineyard. The Grapes were hand harvested with the whole berries, then fermented in 1.5 tonne stainless pots and matured in seasoned French barriques and Punchons for 10 months. Expect plenty of prominent red fruits, cherries and plums, with a hint of tobacco on the palate, complimented by engaging, persistent tannins. It is unmistakably Tempranillo, whilst also being a very typical cool climate Aussie wine. Engaging, structured and very drinkable.



2023 SHADOWFAX NEBBIOLO

Pyrenes, VIC

Shadowfax is a boutique winery situated in Werribee, 30 minutes Southwest of Melbourne. They have a great restaurant / function centre and cellar door, but it really is all about the wines. Fruit is sourced from their vineyard at the foothill of the Pyrenees Mountain ranges at an altitude of around 500 m above sea level. This elevation, plus the proximity to the higher mountains, creates an ecosystem of cooler nights and warmer days, which are perfect conditions to grow Nebbiolo.

On the nose and palate expect plenty of cherries and strawberries, framed by long lean lines of tannin and acid. It has these floral notes with a hint of tar and tea leaf complexities that flow across the nose and palate. This makes a lot of sense when you consider a typical tasting note for the great Barolo's of Piedmonte are "Tar and roses." This is a sensual wine that is a joy to drink.



2017 HULS RIESLING MOSELLE

Germany

Markus Hüls grew up on the family vineyard in Kröv in the Moselle Valley. In 2012, Markus produced his first wines under his own name and has been hailed as one of the rising stars in the Moselle. He has 8 hectares of vineyards, which are being converted from organic to Biodynamic.

This Dry Riesling is a great example of the Mosel style, but do look out for his sweeter wines, which are sensational. This wine has plenty of the lime, green apple, white pepper and flinty stone like minerality you would expect on the nose and palate. But you also get this hint of kerosene, which is a feature of older Riesling, especially from the Mosel. This is a great wine that just gets better as the wine opens.



2021 GOMEZ CRUZADO RIOJA CRIANZA TEMPRANILLO

Spain

Bodegas y Viñedos Gómez Cruzado is a smallish, yet historically rich winery located in Rioja Alta. The winery sources grapes from sustainably farmed old bush vines across elevated plots in Sierra Cantabria, Alto Najarilla, and Bajo Najarill. This is a modern winery with a long history in Rioja.

This is a blend of 75% Tempranillo and 25% Garnacha soils. On the nose, expect aromas of plum, bramble, and dark berries accentuated by spicy and toasty savory nuances from barrel ageing. The palate is medium-bodied and approachable, with supple tannins, bright acidity, and a fruit-forward finish marked by a gentle spice lift, highlighted by vanilla oak tones.

Enjoy the Wines,
Matt, The Bullionaire



Matte Dunne - Sommelier



Stu Freeman

Matt Eagan