

SAINT GOOSE

Volume 41: Australia

August 2025

This month's wine club selection is an exploration of modern Australia - a curated lineup of seven wines that shatter the outdated stereotype of the country as a one-trick pony for big, jammy, high-alcohol Shiraz. Instead, we're showcasing the new Australia: elegant, terroir-driven wines from diverse climates and a few unexpected grape varieties. These wines reflect a country pushing boundaries, embracing sustainability, and proving that Australia's wine scene is as nuanced and exciting as any in the world. Cheers!

Wine #1 Thomas Goss Riesling 2021

Varietal: 100% Riesling
Region: Adelaide Hills
Taste: Citrus notes, lemon zest, fresh lime, orange blossom
Elevage: Fermented in stainless steel
Serve: Chilled
Pairings: Oysters, roasted chicken with herbs

The Thomas Goss brand traces its roots back to Devonshire-born Thomas Goss (1810-1890) and his family, early pioneers of McLaren Vale. Their original homestead, "Ingleburne," established in 1855, remains a living symbol of their legacy. Since 2013, winemaking at the Thomas Goss label has been overseen by Alexia Roberts, producing approachable yet terroir-driven wines grown in both McLaren Vale and nearby Adelaide Hills under the stewardship of Epicurean Wines, a portfolio championing South Australia's family-owned wineries.

Wine #2 Unico Zelo Jade & Jasper 2024

Varietal: 100% Fiano
Region: Waikerie, Riverland
Taste: Peach blossom, wet stone
Elevage: Fermented in stainless steel
Serve: Chilled
Pairings: Seafood

Unico Zelo is a boutique South Australian winery founded in 2012 by the dynamic husband-and-wife duo Brendan and Laura Carter in the Adelaide Hills, around Gumeracha. Both fresh from their university studies - Brendan in Oenology and Laura in Agricultural Science

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- they launched Unico Zelo with a shared dream of crafting Italian-inspired, textural, and expressive wines from often overlooked grape varieties and sites .

The name Unico Zelo literally translates from Italian as "unique zeal" or "unique passion," reflecting their mission to make distinctly Australian wines with lasting cultural impact - even though many mistakenly expect an Italian winery due to the name. They adopted minimal intervention winemaking - think low sulphur, mostly wild ferments, and often no filtration - and favor varieties suited to hot, dry Australian conditions: Fiano, Nero d'Avola, Dolcetto, Barbera, Nebbiolo, Zibbibo, and Gewürztraminer among them.

Unico Zelo became the first Australian winery to be certified B Corporation in 2019, committing 1% of new product revenue to jungle reforestation projects.

Wine #3 Clairault Margaret River Chardonnay 2019

Varietal:	100% Chardonnay
Region:	Margaret River
	Taste: Stone fruit, citrus, toasted nuts, lemon curd
Elevage:	40% new, 30% 2nd fill and 30% 3rd fill French barriques for nine months
Serve:	Chilled
Pairings:	Grilled salmon, mushroom risotto, aged Cheddar

Clairault-Streicker Wines are a family of premium wines, crafted from privately-owned vineyards in the Margaret River Wine Appellation of Western Australia. Since 1976, the vineyard has grown to encompass the diverse climate and soil conditions of three renowned sub regions. Their portfolio includes an award winning, cold-climate Streicker Syrah, outstanding single-vineyard Cabernet Sauvignons and Chardonnays and the exceptional wines of the original Clairault Vineyards. Clairault Streicker wines are authentic and classically styled, setting a benchmark for the Margaret River region.

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Wine #4 Unico Zelo Tropo Little Red 2021

Varietal: Pinot Gris, Syrah, Merlot, Chardonnay
Region: Adelaide Hills
Taste: Bright red fruit, crunchy tannins
Elevage: Fermented in stainless steel
Serve: Slightly chilled
Pairings: Charcuterie boards, mozzarella + tomatoes, pizza

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Wine #5 Langmeil Three Gardens GSM 2022

Varietal: 44% Grenache, 34% Shiraz, 19% Mataro, 1% Carignan, 1% Counoise, 1% Cinsault
Region: Barossa Valley
Taste: Red fruits, dark cherry, sweet spice, pepper
Elevage: 11 months in French oak
Serve: Cellar Temperature
Pairings: Grilled foods, burgers, pulled pork

The Lindner family of Langmeil Winery has been immersed in the Barossa's culture of farming, food, wine and community for six generations. Their commitment to quality in all aspects is unwavering and any wine that bears the Langmeil name represents the family's pursuit of excellence in wine and community. Life is for living and the season that epitomizes this is spring! Awakening from a winter slumber, the first days of spring bring budburst and a renewed enthusiasm for fun and frivolity. Our wines bring out the best in everyone and are worthy of celebration with good friends and great food!

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Wine #6 Clairault Cabernet-Merlot 2017

Varietal: 77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot
Region: Margaret River
Taste: Dark fruit, cassis, mint
Elevage: 10 months in French oak
Serve: Cellar Temperature
Pairings: Beef short ribs, grilled ribeye, lasagna

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Wine #7 Streicker Margaret River Shiraz 2014

Varietal: 100% Syrah
Region: Margaret River
Taste: Red and black fruit, dried orange, baking spices
Elevage: 14 months in 33% new French oak
Serve: Cellar Temperature
Pairings: Grilled lamb skewers, aged cheese, beef brisket

The Margaret River Wine Region has been blessed with eight great growing seasons in a row. Vintage 2014 started off with some late, heavy rainfall in September and two minor hail events in October. However from here on, there weren't any significant weather events until a heat spike the week prior to Christmas. The entire flowering period occurred in warm, mild conditions resulting in good fruit-set across all varieties. Vintage conditions were ideal for ripening all varieties with little or no disease present and no rainfall pressures.

Roughly half the block was hand-picked and de-stemmed, with the berries left uncrushed to preserve the natural fruit perfumes and allow for slow, controlled tannin and flavour extraction, with 33% of the stalks yielded from the destemming processes being added back to the must to promote extraction of spicier flavours and more savoury fruit characters and textures. 4 days later the other half of the block was hand-picked and de-stemmed, with the berries left uncrushed to preserve the natural fruit perfumes and allow for slow, controlled tannin and flavour extraction. The ferments were kept cold and pumped over twice a day for 8 days. The still fermenting wines were then gently separated from their skins and allowed to finish fermenting in

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Burgundian-style oak barrels, 33% which were new. The wines were then aged separately in oak for 14 months, after which they were blended, clarified and bottled.