

Halliday

WINE COMPANION 2025

The 2025 Halliday Wine Companion was released in August 2024 and we were thrilled to retain our prestigious Top 5 Red Star Winery Rating, acknowledging our exemplary track record of excellence over the past 10 years. This year also marks the best range of scores we have ever received, with 9 of our wines rated 95 points or above. Notably, our 2022 Cri de Coeur Pinot Noir 2022 earned an impressive 96 points and our 2019 Savagnin was awarded an exceptional 97 points! See below for a selection of these reviews by Halliday's Jane Faulkner (JF).



CRITTENDEN



Crittenden Cri de Coeur Sous Voile Savagnin 2019 — Rating 97, Gold

Incredibly fresh, to the point more citrus flavours come to the fore rather than oxidative complexity alone. A hint of florals, camomile with some preserved ginger spice on the palate. Nutty, mouth-watering aldehydes and burnt butter, with some wood tannins adding volume. The all-important distinct acidity of savagnin keeps this lively from the first sip to the last. Another excellent addition to the lineage of this style spearheaded by Crittenden. JF



Crittenden Cri de Coeur Pinot Noir 2022 — Rating 96, Gold

This is up there as one of the finest Cri de Coeurs to date. It retains a core of cherry fruit, some kirsch, chinotto, blood orange juice and zest. Plus lots of spices and cedar wood flavours – not oaky, though. Fuller bodied, textural tannins with a little hazelnut skin feel to them, then fine acidity freshens the palate in time for another sip. JF



Crittenden Cri de Coeur Chardonnay 2022 — Rating 95, Gold

Of all the chardonnays from Crittenden, this has a specific DNA. While there's winemaking at play – the rich, sweet, cedary oak especially – there's always a savoury overlay, almost a button-mushroom character. Tangy, juicy fruit rolled in spice, baked apples too; the fuller-bodied palate is fleshed out by nougat-lemon-curd lees and, of course, the oak. This needs time to open up and be served with food to see it at its best. JF



Crittenden Cri de Coeur Macvin #5 Savagnin NV — Rating 95, Gold

The fifth incarnation where a portion of flor-aged savagnin '19 is blended with the juice of fresh '23 savagnin, then fortified. A light toffee-amber hue; smells of toffee too, and my mother yeast (for sourdough), dried figs and pear with baked quinces, salty and nutty too. There's a neat interplay between the acidity, spirit/sweetness and the tug of phenolics. Equally important, this is super fresh. JF



Crittenden The Zumma Pinot Noir 2022 — Rating 95, Gold

A lovely balance to wines off the low yielding '22 vintage; it has to count for something. Zumma has a certain structure and detail, with the oak superbly integrated. It's full of sweet cherries, blood orange, lots of baking spices and some cooling menthol with a whiff of damp autumn leaves. The more mid-weighted palate fleshes out with textural tannins and the acidity keeping everything lively. There's a succulence, too. JF



Crittenden Kangerong Pinot Noir 2022 — Rating 95, Gold

There's a delicacy, a prettiness within and it's way too easy to slurp away at this. That would be a bit greedy but it does glide easily across the lighter-framed palate, meeting up with supple tannins and fine acidity. In between some pink and red cherries, cedary woody spices, a touch galangal and chinotto. Drinking brilliantly now and best to enjoy it in its youth. JF



Crittenden Peninsula Pinot Gris 2023 — Rating 95, Gold

Crittenden is on a roll when it comes to tip-top pinot gris. Here's another vintage, another very good rendition. This is a little soft, with layers of flavour from baked pears, fresh nashi, ginger fluff cake and creamy lees. The palate is feathery-fine although bolstered by the lees and ageing in some French oak, and there's a delicious honeycomb flavour too. JF