



97

2010 RESERVE CHARDONNAY

This wine was made by Rick Kinzbrunner of Giaconda fame, who is able to craft chardonnay with exceptional texture and flavour complexity. He is happy to walk a later-picking highwire, bringing together grapefruit zest and juice, white peach and cashew, bound by strong mineral acidity. It shares the length with other Yarra Valley chardonnays, but was far less easy to recognise. To 2020.

97

2011 BLOCK F CHARDONNAY

The grapes come from the block that, year in, year out, provides the top quality chardonnay for Toolangi. This is the classic iron fist in a velvet glove, the sheer power and intensity on the back-palate and finish striking without warning on the finish and aftertaste; the flavours are three-dimensional, encompassing every flavour and nuance of perfectly ripened chardonnay fruit, which has eaten 11 months in oak. To 2024.

96

2013 ESTATE CHARDONNAY

Estate-grown, made at Oakridge Estate, and matured in French oak for 11 months; fine and elegant, the wine has the length and finesse that comes in large measure from the vineyard, but also has the unmistakable thumbprint of David Bicknell in the guise of the complex bouquet. To 2028.

96

2011 PAULS LANE CHARDONNAY

Pauls Lane abuts Toolangi's vineyards on one side, the Toolangi state forest on another. A single block was hand-picked and made at Hoddles Creek Estate by Franco D'Anna in his usual restrained style, except for a surge of stone fruit on the back-palate and finish, 11 months in French oak hardly breaking the water. First class wine. To 2021.

96

2010 RESERVE SHIRAZ

Full purple-crimson; the grapes come from the low-yielding 30-year-old vines of the Hamer Vineyard near Yarra Glen; the wine was made at Oakridge, and spent 10 months in French oak. A powerful and complex wine, showing just how much varietal expression can be achieved at this alcohol level, for it is medium-bodied, not full-bodied; the black cherry/blackberry fruits are framed by quality French oak, the tannins judged to perfection. To 2030.

95

2013 ESTATE PINOT NOIR

From low-cropped estate vines; made at Oakridge Estate by David Bicknell, it was matured in French oak for 11 months; it creeps up on you, elegantly insistent each time it is smelt and tasted, every part of the fruit, and tannins precisely locked in step with each other. To 2023.

95

2012 PAULS LANE PINOT NOIR

Estate-grown, hand-picked grapes from especially low-cropped vines, made at Oakridge, aged in French barriques for 10 months. The colour is a little deeper than its sibling; the bouquet is fragrant and expressive, the medium-bodied palate following suit, with cherry and plum fruit in the ascendant, oak evident, but in balanced harmony; silky tannins sustain the long finish. To 2021.

95

2013 PINOT NOIR

Part estate-grown, part from a vineyard in Yarra Glen. Made at Yering Station, and matured in French oak for 11 months. Has excellent, colour, clear and deep; silky and supple, its varietal expression is flawless, as are its balance and length. To 2023.

95

2013 PAULS LANE SHIRAZ

Made at Coldstream Hills and at Hoddles Creek Estate, where it was blended and bottled after 18 months in French oak; the colour is deep, the plate with considerable presence and complexity, its savoury assemblage of red and black cherry fruits and supporting tannins providing a mouth-watering finish and aftertaste. To 2038.

94

2011 BLOCK E PINOT NOIR

From a single part (Block E) of the Toolangi Vineyard, made at Giaconda. The colour, while relatively light, is deeper than the other three pinots in the '11 range, and slightly more purple; everything about the wine (even the bottle) is more substantial than its siblings, the fruit darker and richer, the French oak (12 months maturation) with a higher percentage of new barrels. To 2017.

93

2010 SHIRAZ

Bright, clear crimson-purple hue; components were made at Yering Station, Oakridge and Hoddles Creek Estate, and spent 18 months in French oak. The bouquet is notably fragrant, setting the scene for the bright red and black cherry fruit of the medium-bodied palate; a sprinkling of spice and pepper completes the picture. To 2020.

92

2010 ESTATE SHIRAZ

Deep crimson; the bouquet shows savoury notes of game, leather, spice, layered with red and dark fruits; medium-bodied with tangy acidity, the palate is taut and fresh, slowly revealing the fine tannin and ample fruit lying beneath; time is needed for true revelation. To 2020.