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Veritable Valli

SEP 27, 2016 by BOB CAMPBELL MW

in NEW & NOTEWORTHY



Grant Taylor (Photo: [Valli Wines](#))

Most Central Otago winemakers are linked to a single sub-region. Grant Taylor launched his **Valli** label “with the aim of creating true representations of Otago’s sub-regions with

unflinching intensity and purity”.

He’s been making wine in Central Otago since 1993, mostly as winemaker for **Gibbston Valley** (**tastings**). Taylor’s intimate knowledge of his much-loved region, his passion to make high-quality wine and his experience as a Central Otago winemaker helped him to rapidly achieve his goal to produce benchmark sub-regional styles. Here are three recently released Valli sub-regional pinot noirs, plus a wine from Waitaki, each of which achieves a high standard of quality.

2014 Valli Bannockburn Pinot Noir (\$65) is made in a typical Taylor “hands-off” style. Like all his wines, this delicately fruity pinot noir is designed to express regional character rather than the heavy hand of the winemaker.

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2014 Valli Bendigo vineyard

Pinot Noir (\$65) is my favourite. It features typically ripe “Bendigo” plum and cherry flavours together with an appealing richness of texture.

2014 Valli Gibbston Vineyard

Pinot Noir (\$65) from one of the warmest sites in that fairly cool sub-region is quite a complex style that achieves a good level of ripeness while retaining a suggestion of fresh herb flavours that is often a feature of Gibbston pinot.

2014 Valli Waitaki Pinot

Noir (\$65) shows typical cool climate characters including fresh herb, floral and chalky mineral flavours. It stands apart from the other three Central Otago wines in style, if not in quality.



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Regional



shiraz-a- thon

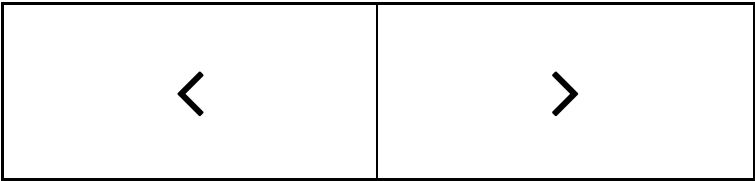
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styles of
sauvignon
blanc

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Michael
Nash says:

OCT 01, 2016

Valli, are
an
outstanding
pinot
producer
in NZ, &
together
with Ata
Rangi
produce
richly
flavoured
highly
aromatic
wines, that
age
beautifully
& are my 2
stand-out
favourites.
While

many other
Pinot
producers
in NZ are
significantly
increasing
their prices
each year,
with many
now above
\$100, both
of these
vineyards
continue to
represent
excellent
value, and
have
largely
resisted the
opportunity
to get
greedy. All
4 of the
Valli's have
their
unique
flavour
profile &
depending
on the year
one
typically
stands out
(slightly),

with the '13
Gibbston
the
highlight
from a very
strong
class, and
for the '10
it was a
coin toss
for the
Bendigo &
Gibbston

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