

## JACQUES REYMOND



78 Williams Rd, Prahara, (03) 9525 2178,  
www.jacquesyreymond.com.au

Cuisine: Modern

Wine list by Nathalie Raymond

Wines on list: 650 (16 by the glass)

Wine prices: \$\$\$ (\$12-\$20 by the glass)

This is one of the most intelligent and thoughtful selections of wine you'll ever see. There is a real sense of occasion starting with Dom Perignon by the glass continuing through the serious collection of wines from Australia, NZ and France, finishing with fabulous Sautesmes and dessert styles.

**Best Food and Wine Matching**

## LAKE HOUSE



King St, Doylesford, (03) 5348 3329,

www.lakehouse.com.au

Cuisine: Modern Australian

Wine list by Tom Hogan

Wines on list: 840 (21 by the glass)

Wine prices: \$\$\$ (\$11-\$25 by the glass)

Three words describe this outstanding list: attention to detail. You feel each wine has a specific role to play in the grand Lake House scheme. Its strength is Victorian wines and it proudly represents many local wineries, placed in a global context alongside some of the best wines in the world. Organic and biodynamic wines are a speciality. For something aged look up "From the Depths of the Cellar".

## LA PETANQUE



1208 Mornington Flinders Rd, Main Ridge,

(03) 5931 0155, www.lapetanique.com.au

Cuisine: Modern Southern French

Wine list by Philippe Marquet

Wines on list: 620 (30 by the glass)

Wine prices: \$\$ (\$9-\$24 by the glass)

By regional restaurant standards – heck, even city ones – La Petanque over-delivers, presenting its 60 diners with a list of 620 wines. Local Mornington wines hold the number-one position in each wine category followed by the rest of Australia and then France. The restaurant has a big emphasis on the Rhone Valley, Provence, Bordeaux and Burgundy. We fell in love with the dessert and fortified lists.

## LA VITA BUONA



7 City Square, 44-86 Swanston St, Melbourne,

(03) 9654 7855, www.lavitaBuona.com.au

Cuisine: Italian

Wine list by Jeannette Clarke

Wines on list: 530 (24 by the glass)

Wine prices: \$\$ (\$8-\$22 by the glass)

In its third year and going from strength to strength, this list is a winner. It shows real depth as a classy showcase of some of the world's best and more interesting wines. Every wine (except for the bubbles) is available by 500ml carafe and wine flights are offered providing fun and discovery. Mark ups are fair and beer lovers are provided for with a beer of the day on tap. All wines are available to take away.

## LONGRAIN



40-44 Little Bourke St, Melbourne,

(03) 9671 3151, www.longrain.com

Cuisine: Modern Thai

Wine list by Sam Christie

Wines on list: 83 (15 by the glass)

Wine prices: \$\$ (\$9-\$22 by the glass)

Thai food hard to match with wines? No way. Lightly wooded and aromatic white-grape varieties, supple reds, a focus on cool-climate regions and styles not overly alcoholic or wooded, this is a template for others to follow. It's not a big list but it is a serious list and at times daring too. Our favourite sections are "Interesting Others" (for red and white wines), a bunch of strange bed fellows from Oz and the world.

## LOQUAT RESTAURANT & BAR



3183 Point Nepean Rd, Sorrento,

(03) 5984 4444, www.loquat.com.au

Cuisine: Modern

Wine list by Tracey Henry

Wines on list: 200 (14 by the glass)

Wine prices: \$\$ (\$8-\$14 by the glass)

A focused list that doesn't try too hard, instead it has cherry picked wines from the nearby Mornington Peninsula and around the world that will excite a lot of tired wine palates out there. The occasional older vintage is available and there's the odd treat in store like a half bottle of '03 d'Yquem to go with the fig and macadamia pudding.

## MAHA



21 Bora Rd, Melbourne, (03) 9629 5900,

www.mahadg.com.au

Cuisine: Middle Eastern

Wine list by Darcy Currow & Andrew Phillipot

Wines on list: 292 (33 by the glass)

Wine prices: \$\$ (\$12-\$40 by the glass)

Spicy, saucy, rich and exotic, the food of Maha is inspired by the Middle East. The wines share a similar spirit of adventure suiting the restaurant style beautifully. Wines from Lebanon (yes they do exist), Hungary, Washington State as well as more familiar wines of home and Europe make up the fabulously complex wine list. Real drinking? Here you can give vent to your creative side as a wine drinker.

## MALAYAN ORCHID RESTAURANT



155 View St, Bendigo, (03) 5442 4411,

www.malaynorchid.com.au

Cuisine: Modern and traditional Asian

Wine list by Bob Yam

Wines on list: 195 (15 by the glass)

Wine prices: \$ (\$7-\$9 by the glass)

A fantastic vinous addition to Bendigo's food and wine scene, Malayan Orchid has it all. Literally. Any list that serves Marlborough sauvignon blanc, crouchen riesling and Penfolds Grange has every wine base well covered. A lot of different styles are catered for due to the exotic nature of some food ingredients including camel, venison and kangaroo.

## MARIS



15 Glenferrie Rd, Malvern, (03) 9500 0665,

www.maris.com.au

Cuisine: Modern Australian

Wine list by Liam Hutchison

Wines on list: 73 (14 by the glass)

Wine prices: \$\$ (\$8-\$14 by the glass)

For a relatively small list of 73 wines, Maris covers a lot of ground. Most is Australian, but with Maris' mod-Oz cuisine it's only fitting. The emphasis is on youthful vitality with all wines (with the exception of a '98 Pol Roger) from the noughties. Some big names mingle with some up-and-comers. It's a nice mix. We appreciate this list's lack of pretension, its concise nature and above all, its modest mark-ups.

## MASANI



313 Drummond St, Carlton, (03) 9347 5610,

www.masani.com.au

Cuisine: Italian

Wine list by Kara Matsano

Wines on list: 366 (19 by the glass)

Wine prices: \$\$ (\$9.50-\$23 by the glass)

Kara Matsano is one of Melbourne's most enthusiastic young sommeliers and it shows in her list at Masani. The strengths lie in both Italian and Australian wines matching nicely with the artisan Italian food. The savignone blanc offering has some older vintages and more textural wines. Aperitifs and dessert wines are well represented and very tempting.

## KOORYONG LAWN TENNIS CLUB



489 Glenferrie Rd, Kooyong, (03) 9822 3333,

www.kooyong.com.au

Cuisine: Modern European

Wine list by Patricia Kennanin

Wines on list: 88 (15 by the glass)

Wine prices: \$ (\$4-\$12 by the glass)

Membership at Kooyong has its benefits for wine lovers; a strong list of wines with a mix of top shelf and more adventurous makers, 15 wines by the glass and some of the lowest restaurant mark ups on wine in Melbourne. With prices like these you could drink Champagne all day. Wines are youthful and fresh with the oldest sourced from 2001.