BELLVALE



Bellvale Pinot Noir 2025

Reviews

The WineFront, May 2026

Campbell Mattinson

This is very promising. It's also very good buying. There's often something about Gippsland Pinot Noir that just has that extra in-built hard-to-put-your-finger-on complexity. This smells the goods and backs the promise up on the palate. It's a light-and-insistent style but there's plenty going on and it's beautifully well sustained. Flavour-wise this wine is built on fruit and undergrowth with spice, orange rind and earth-like notes studded within. It has (fine) tannin, it has texture, it has X-factor.

94 points

The Real Review, July 2026

Huon Hooke

Medium-full, intense ruby with a rim of purple, and a bouquet that shows depth and detail, the dark-cherry aromas intertwined with foresty touches, while the palate has focused intensity and freshening acidity. A pinot of delicious flavour and penetrating intensity. It really sings on the tongue.

93 points

The Real Review, August 2026

Max Allen

Five years ago, Gippsland winemaker Bill Downie told me how this cool-climate region east of Melbourne was on the cusp of major expansion. 'It would only take one reasonably large winery to start putting sticks into the ground for others to follow,' he said. 'And then you'll begin to get some critical mass.'

Fast-forward to just before vintage last year, when leading Mornington Peninsula producers, the Gjergja family (who own the Kooyong and Port Phillip Estate wineries), bought the 19-hectare Bellvale vineyard near Leongatha. It's not 'putting sticks in the ground' as such (Bellvale was planted in 1998), but it's certainly a significant investment and vote of confidence in the region.

This is the first pinot to be released by the new owners and it is a tantalising glimpse of things to come from Bellvale, as are the chardonnay and pinot gris. It's got that distinctive character of mellow earthiness I associate with pinot from the deep red volcanic soils in this part of the world: autumnal red fruits, fine, silky tannins, comforting finish. It's also a bargain at this price, given the kind of money most good pinots go for these days. $38

Halliday Wine Companion, October 2026

Jane Faulkner

Thoughtful, pared-back winemaking as Tim Perrin gets his head around this new addition to the Kooyong/Port Philip Estate portfolio. This is a delightful, highly appealing wine and my pick of the trio this vintage. The bright, mid-ruby hue entices, as do the florals, warm spices and forest floor aromas. The palate is barely mid-weighted but is full of flavour, with rhubarb, black cherries and pips plus woodsy notes. There's a prettiness to this, some

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fruit sweetness as much as savouriness across the palate. The tannins are fine and supple, with refreshing acidity. It's delicious.

94 points

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