Route du Van

PO Box 1465, Warrnambool, Vic 3280 **Region** Various Vic **T** (03) 5561 7422 **www**.routeduvan.com **Open** Not **Winemaker** Tod Dexter **Est.** 2010 **Dozens** 8000

The Dexter (Tod and Debbie) and Bird (Ian and Ruth, David and Marie) families have been making or selling wine for 30 years. They were holidaying in the picturesque vineyards and ancient Bastide villages of southwest France when they decided to do something new that was all about fun: fun for them, and fun for the consumers who bought their wines, which would have a distinctive southern French feel to them. The prices are also friendly, at \$15–20 a bottle, bistros one of the target markets. The business is obviously enjoying great success, production up from 3500 dozen to its present level off the back of expanded export markets. Exports to the UK, the US, Norway, Sweden and Poland.

Yarra Valley Sauvignon Blanc Semillon 2013 A 72/24% blend, with 4% vermentino; fermented in stainless steel and barrel. Has obvious complexity, citrussy acidity giving a sure-footed foundation for this flavour depth, the accent as much savoury as fruity. Screwcap. 12% alc. Rating 93 To 2016 \$20 Semuch Savoury as fruity. Screwcap. 12% alc. Rating 93 To 2016 \$20 Parra Valley Pinot Noir 2013 Part machine, part hand (for whole bunches) picked; part cold-soaked prior to fermentation. Light, but bright colour, with a fragrant red fruit bouquet and a light to medium-bodied palate. A pretty Pinot, ready when you are. Screwcap. 13% alc. Rating 91 To 2020 \$20 Partheology Heathcote Shiraz 2013 Destemmed into open and rotary fermenters with a portion of whole berries; 14 days on skins, then 35% in used oak for 6 months, the remainder held in stainless steel. A full-bodied Heathcote style, replete with blackberry and plum fruit; the stainless steel has retained freshness, but the tannins need to mellow over the next few years – and they will do just that if given the chance. Screwcap. 13.9% alc. Rating 91 To 2028 \$20 Semuration of the stainless steel has retained freshness.

Yarra Valley Chardonnay 2012 Rating 89 To 2016 \$20 Street Art White 2013 Rating 88 To 2016 \$15 Street Art Red 2013 Rating 88 To 2016 \$15 Street Art Red 2013 Rating 88 To 2016 \$15 Street Art Red 2013 Rating 88 To 2016 \$15 Street Art Red 2013 Rating 88 To 2016 \$15 Street Art Red 2013 Rating 88 To 2016 \$15 Street Art Red 2013 Rating 88 To 2016 \$15 Street Art Red 2013 Rating 89 To 2016 \$20