COBAW RIDGE
100% ESTATE

Certified Organic 2009:
Biodynamic 2011:
ACO Reg. No: 14031
LL: No. 32800587

Spring Newsletter 2026

Highlights of the Year

Dark Horse Winery of the Year
nomination earlier this winter
and recently included in
2026 Halliday Top 100 Wineries

41. Cobaw Ridge Macedon Ranges, Victoria

There's something deliciously stubborn about Cobaw Ridge. For more than 40 years, Alan and Nelly Cooper have worked this cool, elevated and picturesque Macedon Ranges site, growing grapes and making exceptional wines without chasing passing trends, all while raising a family. The vineyard is certified organic and biodynamic, producing a distinctly site-driven range of cool-climate wines that feel a world away from the mainstream. Now in natural balance, the vines need little extra input, though canopy management has become more important as the climate shifts, with added shading helping protect the grapes from sunburn. Six of the seven wines in the *2027 Halliday Wine Companion* scored 95 points or higher. The chardonnay has become quite the collector's dream, while the lagrein is widely considered the finest expression of the variety planted in Australian soils. The '24 scored 97 points. Jane Faulkner says: "Take a bow Alan and Nelly Cooper. You have championed this northern Italian variety for more than three decades and, while you've made some excellent wines over the years, the '24 is by far the most pristine, pure and perfect. I just wanted to sit down and enjoy this for its drinking pleasure. So I did." It's a tiny operation, with Alan and Nelly doing the lot, and that sense of independence is sewn into the wines. Cobaw Ridge remains, unapologetically, its own thing. – *KB*

Top 100 Wineries of Australia

Spring has Sprung!

We are absolutely thrilled to share that Cobaw Ridge has been named at **No. 41** in the **2026 Halliday Wine Companion Top 100 Wineries**!

This marks the **3rd year in a row** we've made this prestigious list, coming right on the heels of our nomination for **Dark Horse Winery of the Year** back in June.

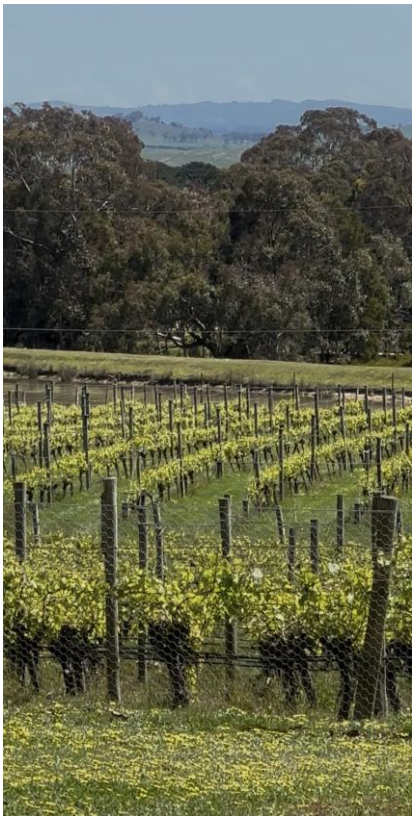
It's an incredible honour, and we are so proud of the hard work that goes into every bottle. A massive thank you to all of you for your continued support and for sharing this journey with us. We could not do it without our wonderful supporters!

Vintage 2025

Looking back to the run up to picking vintage'25 (our 36th vintage!) a few things stood out.
Overall, the season in general was a touch warmer and dryer (hence, more concentration and zero disease pressure)
Slightly fuller ripe flavours but still with our hallmark line and length and great natural acidity!
The only noticeable downside was a reduced crop across the board. Most notably in the Pinot Noirs. High Density yield was 450lt / acre hence the super concentration! Original Pinot yielded around 850 lt / acre. (better…but way lower than Grand Cru levels.)
Chardonnay is right now showing incredible intensity and with fine focus with a huge wash of citrus and wildflower notes.
Lagrein certainly enjoyed the little bit of extra growing season heat and likewise the Syrah!

It is showing all the amazing things that our wonderful granite cool site can do to the fullest!

All production profiles very much as for prior vintage. (if it ain't broke etc.)
Another stunning set of wines that we are incredibly proud to set free into the big wide world!
il pinko is 2024 vintage so back to a cooler year so hence the extra time in bottle has greatly enhanced this beautiful wine.



Cobaw Ridge Winery: Alan & Nelly Cooper Ph: 03 54235227 **cobawridge.com.au** E: cobawridge@bigpond.com

New Release - October 2026

Latest Reviews

Cobaw Ridge Chardonnay 2025
This is a treat. A quietness to the wine and yet a seductive spread in texture and flavour. Hazy apple juice characters meet fennel, preserved lemon, light, wild honey notes, just-ripe peach and a touch of nougat with vanilla wafer. All of this sticks well in the palate, the perfume a good echo. Minerality, a briny undertow, makes itself known too. The balance is superb, you see it in plain sight. That it tastes like proper chardonnay, has a vitality, finishes long, delivers refreshment factor, well, it all adds up superbly.
Rated : 96 Points
The Wine Front – Mike Bennie

Cobaw Ridge il pinko Syrah Rose 2024
This one is syrah and it is matured in qvevri and old oak. Scoffable stuff with a bit of pizzazz. Lemon on raspberry, tart cherry, some lime leaf and tomato leaf notes, a touch of Thai basil. Sounds exotic, ends up a tense, racy, saline and stony pink wine with drive and energy, thirst-quenching nature, subtle fruit, gentle savouriness, all round shit yeah drinkability. It feels tonic like, quite herbal and a little green in a way, but it fits, a pleasing bitterness, a twist of rooibos tea-like quality too. A beauty, on an edge, but a really good one.
Rated : 93 Points
The Wine Front – Mike Bennie

Cobaw Ridge l'altra Chardonnay 2025
Same, same as the regular 2025 Chardonnay but separated at birth. End of the pressing cycle, so a bit more extractive, with a touch more grip from the pressing time. Think more textured and mealy almost like wheatbix ?? With fine acidity keeping this wine nicely balanced!
By Alan Cooper

Cobaw Ridge l'altra Syrah Pinot Lagrein 2025
Crisp edges, juicy core, red cherry, rose hip tea, cranberry, light slip of green almond, a touch of alpine herbs. Here we go. Super fresh feeling, slick and then with the light grip. Refreshing and inviting in fragrance alongside all this. It feels fancy and then it feels like the wine to drink out of tumblers from an Esky filled with ice. On the critical scale it rates high for balance, finesse, savoury elements in tighter, finer fruit character. On the drinkability scale it's buck wild.
Rated : 94 Points
The Wine Front – Mike Bennie

Cobaw Ridge Pinot Noir Original 2025
This snaps to attention and shimmies with crisp tannin and silty textural feel. That grip is pretty seductive, makes the pinot noir feel more serious. Perfume of red cherry, rose petals, game meat and white pepper. The palate rolls with pomegranate juice, rose hip tea, tart cherry, some clove and cinnamon, a lick of almond paste and dashes of Brazil nut, finishes with a touch of bitter herbs. A little gummy, woodiness going on? Maybe. It's tart and savoury, tightly wound, serious in its feel. Seriously good drinking too, and a wine for contemplation and dinner tables over guzzling on couch. Though that's what I am doing now with a book in hand.
Rated : 94 Points
The Wine Front – Mike Bennie

Cobaw Ridge Pinot Noir High Density 2025
I read High Density on the label and my mind wandered to Hi-Tension the Brit Funk pioneers of the late 70s and early 80s. Who can forget their eponymous track, Hi Tension?
There's a sense of tension to this wine. Sinewy tannins create tracks in a sluice of ripe cherry, cola, wild raspberry with a peppering of dusty clove, leathery game meat biltong, alpine herbs and faint mint. A lot to taste. The bouquet is more floral, dried rose petal, cola, clove. Straight up inviting, kind of warm. There's a spread and transparency in texture, despite those ribs of puckering tannin, a slow creep of flavour and a lingering, soft, berries and spice finish. Some of the more savoury elements need time to mellow in, a little twiggy in the program, but a big decant or cellar time will do well for that. Beautiful wine, anyways.
Rated : 94+ Points
The Wine Front – Mike Bennie

Cobaw Ridge Syrah 2025
Things have changed, times have changed, and there's no questioning that Cobaw has found some next level flex. Finesse, purity, sublime balance. Older vines? The real-deal kick in of BD and organics now? A shift in flavour from global warming giving more to a wine and pushing back on the colder place, the harder to ripen place that the wines came from a decade plus ago? Dunno. But sheesh, it's been a building thing and a gradual stretch into a new era. Szechuan pepper, game meat, green peppercorn, ripe blackberries on brambles, fennel. Scents and flavours align on this. An inky feel to the wine but it glides and glides, then snarls with grip and pumice stone dryness. It's heady in scent too. A fog of the stuff, evocative and a little wild and animale but fresh in the same sniff. Savoury red wine, medium weight, plush and then finding grip. An experience here, a true and distinct personality, A wine of striking originality.
Rated : 95 Points
The Wine Front – Mike Bennie

Cobaw Ridge Lagrein 2025
A rare planting of the variety in Australia; 610 metres above sea level, or thereabouts, biodynamic grown and made au naturel. Has seen a rise and rise in its currency in recent years, but a vertical I tasted a while back set me back in my seat.
Beautiful. Fragrant as all get out, medium weight, grippy with tannin, umami licks, alpine herbs. Sheesh, so good. Scents and flavours of ume plums with that pleasing bitterness, dark cherry, aniseed, big sprinkle of smoked paprika and the dusty grip of that spice, the alpine herbs aforementioned and a little salted liquorice. Terracotta tannin texture brings grip and swivel to the wine, and drags it very, very long. It has the mettle of Italian alpine reds with a bit of pinosity thrown in. Utterly delicious, almost thirst-quenching in style, and so assured in the detail of fruit, spice, savoury, herbal, mineral. *Sigh*, so good. One of the most distinct and compelling red wines made in Australia.
Rated : 96 Points
The Wine Front – Mike Bennie

For full reviews
>https://www.winefront.com.au/

We are pleased to announce that our, ***New Releases*** are now available via https://www.cobawridge.com.au/orderform.php

We look forward to seeing you!

Alan and Nelly Cooper

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Warning: Under the Liquor Control Reform Act 1998 it is an offence to supply alcohol to a person under 18 years (penalty exceeds $25,000) and for a person under 18 years to purchase or receive alcohol (penalty exceeds $1,000).