

The Cork Report

Our annual
Aussie Top

15



1

Archetype
Barossa
Shiraz
2006

Rich and exciting with lots of punch. Full-bodied and spicy with a long and enjoyable finish. 91



2. Angove's Nine Vines Rosé 2007 - Starts out tasting like a white and finishes like a red. Strawberry, cherry and raspberry flavors fill the mouth. Exceptional blend of Grenache and Shiraz. Australian rosé at its best. 90

3. Grant Burge Barossa Vines Shiraz 2005 - Packed full of dark fruit flavors. Always dependably good. A great vintage for this offering. 90

4. Rock Bare Shiraz 2005 - Inviting nose leads to a complex and full-flavored wine. Medium- to full-bodied with a tasty finish. 90

5. Angove's Nine Vines Shiraz-Vlognier 2006 - Spicy. Really spicy with black pepper tones throughout. What a blend! This is great. 90

6. Yellow Tail The Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2005 - Rich, full-bodied and powerful. Almost Californian in Cab style with a pronounced tannic finish but not overly chewy. Probably best with food. Really good. 90

7. Heath Wines Lizard Flat Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot 2002 - Nutmeg spice on the nose. Smooth, well-rounded dark berry flavors, complex and a tannic finish. Like this a lot. 90

8. Nepenthe Sauvignon Blanc 2006 - Flavorful w/ some depth. Crisp and lively with a green apple finish. A notch above the rest. 89

9. Wolf Blass Yellow Label Riesling 2006 - Tart apple flavors. Exciting and vibrant. Great as an aperitif or with food. Quite versatile. 89

10. Heath Wines Southern Sisters Reserve Sauvignon Blanc 2004 - Grassy from nose to finish. Very acidic and pretty complex for a S. Blanc. 89

11. Yellow Tail The Reserve Shiraz 2006 - A dark hue and sexy legs give the hint that this is a well-made wine. Rich and succulent blackberry fruit flavors. A strong and lasting finish that is slightly tannic. 89

12. McWilliam's Hanwood Estate Riesling 2006 - Dependable and as flavorful as ever. Crisp and light- to medium-bodied. Drink this by itself, or it's great with food. 89



13. 2 Up Shiraz 2005 - Spicy and well-balanced. Great by itself and goes well with pizza or pasta. 89

14. Rosemount Cabernet Sauvignon 2005 - A good example of Aussie Cab. Not too overpowering but enough flavor to leave you fulfilled. A slightly lighter version than heavily tannic Cal. Cabs. 89

15. Climbing Shiraz 2005 - Soft and approachable. A best of the bunch. 89

Editor's Note: For this year's annual Australia \$15 & Under tasting, we deliberately put a greater focus on wines that are quite readily available almost anywhere. If they're not, be sure to ask your favorite wine shop for them. We will be featuring more Australian wines, both from some of these producers and smaller producers, in May, when we preview WineFest (www.thewinefest.com) May 9 & 10 in Minneapolis.

See pages 11 & 22 for more Australian wines reviews and ratings.



Guide to the Cork Report

90-100	Outstanding
80-89	Very Good
70-79	Good
Below 70	Really bad and probably won't even be mentioned