



TYSON STELZER WINE TASTE

THE BEST WINES OF THE WEEK

THE MOST UP-TO-DATE ROUNDUP OF NEW RELEASES ONLINE - CRACKA WINES

EDITION 8: APRIL 15, 2011

- \$9 OXFORD LANDING PINOT GRIGIO 2010
- \$14 MIKE PRESS ADELAIDE HILLS PINOT NOIR 2009
- \$18 XANADU NEXT OF KIN MARGARET RIVER CHARDONNAY 2009
- \$25 DUTSCHKE GHR NEIGHBOURS SHIRAZ 2008
- \$26 TALTARNI BRUT TACHÉ 2008
- \$46 DEVIL'S LAIR MARGARET RIVER CHARDONNAY 2009
- \$55 HENSCHKE GILES LENSWOOD PINOT NOIR 2009
- \$60 S.C. PANNELL MCLAREN VALE GRENACHE 2009
- \$65 WILLIAM DOWNIE YARRA VALLEY PINOT NOIR 2010
- \$100 THE LANE RG REGINALD GERMEIN CHARDONNAY 2009
- \$105 BILANCIA LA COLLINA SYRAH 2008
- \$290 KRUG GRANDE CUVEE NV

FAREWELL FIVE DAY WEEKS! I'LL DRINK TO THAT!

Welcome to the end of the last five day week of the month! Here's a pleasure treasure mixed dozen to celebrate!

Tired of choosing your next bottle by the label, the hottie in the ad or the horoscope? I audition a cast of thousands you so can saunter past the B-grade and schmooze with the megastars!

And, blimey, this week I have lined up the wham bam catwalk glam. The most profound shiraz so far this year swung by the other day, and you'd never guess from which far shore it came (no Euro bling this time). The most captivating chardonnay so far this year, too, and I'd bet a bottle you've never heard of it.

The price wars hit the sparkling aisle this week so these pages are bursting with fizz – five glorious bottles, from the scrapings of the bottom shelf to the ravishing wonders of the very top. You'll be gobsmacked when you discover what you can snaffle for \$6.60. Take out alcohol tax and that's cheaper than buying sultana grapes, as one clever person told me yesterday!

"Awesome!" "Great resource!" "Nice work!" "One of my favourite sites!" Thanks to all who cheered on the arrival of the Wine Taste Index this week. Every edition is now online and free. Bookmark http://tysonstelzer.com/wine_taste_index/



\$9 OXFORD LANDING PINOT GRIGIO 2010

Splash it around, hide the bot, stand back and watch the merriment! A cleanskin killer crafted using the kind of tricks you only hear about in tiny boutiques: wild yeast ferment, skin phenolics and cool, high altitude fruit to tone its Riverland base. Never mind the technicals, it's textural, luscious and creamy. www.oxfordlanding.com

DRINK 2011

90 POINTS

\$14 MIKE PRESS ADELAIDE HILLS PINOT NOIR 2009

Line up every single vineyard, small maker pinot under \$15 and pick the gorgeous one that tastes like pinot. Trick question. There are no others! That's reason enough to get on to Mike right away to get this into your cellar. It will age for a few years, too. www.mikepresswines.com.au

DRINK 2011-2014

91 POINTS



\$18 XANADU NEXT OF KIN MARGARET RIVER CHARDONNAY 2009

The grand chardonnay makeover has come to sub-\$20 land and, my goodness, has it arrived in style! Gorgeously restrained, rippling with mountain river pebble minerality and glistening with lemon and lime zest, Next of Kin is as pristine as Margy Chardy gets at this price. www.xanaduwines.com

DRINK 2011-2012

93 POINTS

FISSION-HOT FIZZ

Wine Taste groupies are going berserk over the buys of the week, which often sell out in no time. You read it here first! No fear of missing out this week – there's bucket loads of Jacob's Creek Sparkling Blanc de Blancs (WT Edition 3, \$14) at 1st Choice and Sparkling Rosé (WT5, \$14) at Dan's, both \$6.60! To fill your six pack, Scribbler is \$13.85 (WT5, \$20) and Bollinger is \$58.80 (WT2, \$126).



IF YOU MISSED
ANY EDITION OF
WINE TASTE
FRET NOT
THEY'RE ALL HERE

\$25 DUTSCHKE GHR NEIGHBOURS SHIRAZ 2008

There's a perfumed, floral lift to Lyndoch shiraz in the far south of the Barossa, and Wayne Dutschke bottles it better than anyone. GHR is the result of years of eyeing off his neighbour's fruit! The 08 is his blackest and deepest yet, seething with blackberries, blueberries, plums and liquorice. Patience. www.dutschkewines.com

DRINK 2014-2020

94 POINTS



\$26 TALTARNI BRUT TACHÉ 2008

Wouldn't touch it in a pink fit? I've converted many a red-blooded bloke to the wonderful world of pink fizz with this juice. But that's hardly fair, because Taché ('stained') is hardly pink at all. Barely a faint salmon hue, with flavours of subtle strawberry hull (the white bit that joins to the stem). \$17 at Dan Murphy's. www.taltarni.com.au

DRINK 2011

92 POINTS

\$46 DEVIL'S LAIR MARGARET RIVER CHARDONNAY 2009

The contrast here is absolutely captivating. Utter finesse and poise, crunchy lemon zest and hints of fig and pear with ultra-low alcohol for Margaret River. At the same time, mesmerising complexity of cashew nut French oak and leesy, barrel ferment complexity. You'll need a second glass to figure it out. \$30@Dan's. www.devils-lair.com

DRINK 2011-2016

94 POINTS



\$55 HENSCHKE GILES LENSWOOD PINOT NOIR 2009

Henschke may not be known for its Adelaide Hills Pinot but that's all about to change. There's a newfound delicacy, a seamless finesse and a gentle sensitivity to the 09, captured in its perfumed rose petal bouquet, gentle red cherry palate and fine, supportive tannin texture. www.henschke.com.au

DRINK 2013-2017

93 POINTS

\$60 S.C. PANNELL MCLAREN VALE GRENACHE 2009

It should be S.G. Pannell. No one in Australia does grenache better than Stephen Pannell. His solo rendition is from ancient McLaren Vale dry grown bush vines, which basked in the 09 season, producing gorgeous violet perfume and red berry compote fruit, laced together with masterfully textured tannins. www.pannell.com.au

DRINK 2014-2019

95 POINTS



\$65 WILLIAM DOWNIE YARRA VALLEY PINOT NOIR 2010

If you asked the mirror who's the fairest pinot maker in the land, it's got to be Billy. His 2010 trilogy is about to hit the ground and you want them all. My favourite changed every time I came back to them over three days, but the Yarra won out. Delicate and lively with precise fruit expression and perfume. www.williamdownie.com.au

DRINK 2011-2017

94 POINTS

\$100 THE LANE RG REGINALD GERMEIN CHARDONNAY 2009

Look out, there's a new chardonnay on the top shelf and it's about to cause a stir. Not because it takes on Giaconda, Leeuwin, Bin A or Tapanappa but because it looks nothing like them. Pour RG blind and I'd make a complete fool of myself with words like 'Grand Cru', 'Puligny' and 'Montrachet.' Truth is, the only fool will be the one who misses out. www.thelane.com.au

DRINK 2016-2024

96 POINTS



\$105 BILANCIA LA COLLINA SYRAH 2008

It is preposterous that New Zealand's finest red may not be a pinot; inconceivable that it could eclipse every Euro, Aussie and everywhere-else red so far this year. Such are the contradictions of La Collina. Hawke's Bay syrah with pepper, graphite, coal, flint, iron filings and the textural structure of dreams. www.kiwinz.com.au

DRINK 2020-2028

97 POINTS

\$290 KRUG GRANDE CUVÉE NV

Krug is the epitome of luxe, grandeur and decadence, with an other-worldliness and an amplitude as lofty as its mesospheric price. GC is definitive Krug, exotically rich, extravagantly complex and thunderingly expansive. It's every bit as enchanting as its legendary reputation anticipates. \$230 at 1st Choice. www.lvmh.com

DRINK SLOW

97 POINTS



WINE TASTE
THE BEST WINES OF THE WEEK
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Want to find all the fab new wines months before they hit the magazines and years before they make the guides? Chasing a weekly \$15 quaff to astonish your guests? In the mood for cutting-edge cult sensations or the most extravagant super-premiums? You've come to the right place.

Wine Taste lobs the best wines of the week into your inbox every Friday. Tyson Stelzer tastes thousands of bottles to unearth the best and leave the rest so you'll be up to speed in less than five minutes. Relax. It's the weekend and your wine is sorted.

Optional special edition upgrades throughout the year guarantee that you'll never miss a thing. You'll be strutting the aisles of 1st Choice or your fave little wine haunt in no time, confidently snapping up all the best buys on the shelves. Just fifty cents a week to take the worry out of wine. Don't take your chances, take Wine Taste.

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