



T O R B R E C K

A reference point in Barossa – as well as one of the leading estates in the world today – Torbreck was founded in 1994 by Rhône lover David Powell. Across the board, the wines show beautifully made, balanced profiles to go with loads of texture, depth, and richness. In addition to Powell's top tier cuvees, which will stand toe-to-toe with the best Syrahs and Grenaches from around the globe, the lineup includes superb values as well, with the Cuvée Juveniles and Woodcutter's releases seemingly always over delivering for the price. Given his access to incredibly old vines and dry farmed vineyards, he also excels in difficult vintages, with the '07s and '08s being among the best wines of the vintage.



96

2007 RUNRIG

RATING: 96
FROM: Barossa Valley, South Australia
VARIETY: Shiraz Viognier
DRINK: 2015 - 2025

From a difficult, drought year, the 2007 Torbreck Run Rig is a spectacular effort. A blend of 95% Shiraz and 5% Viognier that spent 30 months in both new and old French oak, it delivers a deep, brooding bouquet of smoked plums, roasted meat, black licorice, truffle, and underbrush that gives way to a full-bodied, voluptuous, yet elegantly styled Shiraz that has loads of concentration, a full, mouth filling texture, and brilliant length. This is a big wine, yet it never comes across as heavy, has clean, integrated acidity, and masses of ripe tannin on the finish. It's approachable now with a decant, but give bottles 2-4 years in the cellar, and then plan on drinking over the following 12-15 years

97

2009 LES AMIS

RATING: 97
FROM: Barossa Valley, South Australia
VARIETY: Grenache
DRINK: 2013 - 2023+

A spectacular, profound wine, the 2009 Torbreck Les Amis is 100% Grenache, from vines planted in 1901, that spent 18 months in new French oak prior to bottling unfiltered and unfiltered. It sports a deep ruby, borderline opaque color to go with brilliant aromas of kirsch and blackberry liqueur, Asian spice, roasted meats, licorice, and hints of garrigue on the nose. Opening up over the evening, and going from an upfront, perfumed red fruit and spice-driven profile to more darker fruit qualities, mineral, and roasted herbs, this full-bodied, thrillingly textured Grenache has a dense, rich mid-palate, a core of sweet, brilliantly pure fruit, and a seamless, elegant finish that has blockbuster length. While this is superb now, it will be even better with 2-3 years of bottle age, and have 10-15 years of prime drinking.

2008 THE STRUIE

RATING: 94
FROM: Barossa Valley, South Australia
VARIETY: Shiraz
DRINK: 2012 - 2018

From a mix of vineyards in the Barossa Valley, and then cooler climate, higher altitude vineyards in the Eden Valley, the 2008 Torbreck Shiraz The Struie is 100% Shiraz that spent 18 months in a combination of old and new French oak barrels. It offers up a smoking bouquet of deep, blackberry fruit, earth, black pepper, pan drippings, and serious minerality that flows to a full-bodied, dense, concentrated Shiraz that has beautiful freshness, a lively, energetic texture, and brilliant focus and length on the finish. This opens up over the evening and possess an excellent mix of complexity, structure, and richness. It will benefit from short to midterm cellaring, and drink well for 15+ years.

90



2010 CUVÉE JUVENILES

RATING: 90

FROM: Barossa Valley, South Australia

VARIETY: Proprietary blend

DRINK: 2010 - 2015

Slightly more serious, richer, and darker in style than the 2009, the 2010 Torbreck Cuvée Juveniles offers up outstanding, yet cooler-climate aromas of black cherries, licorice, mineral, and herbed game to go with a medium to full-bodied, concentrated palate. Very well done and balance on the palate, with solid acidity, ripe tannin, and plenty of length, this will actually be better in a year or so, and drink well for 5-6 years.

2009 CUVÉE JUVENILES

RATING: 90

FROM: Barossa Valley, South Australia

VARIETY: Proprietary blend

DRINK: 2010 - 2015

A blend of 60% Grenache, 20% Shiraz, and 20% Mataro that's beautifully complex and perfumed, the 2009 Torbreck Cuvée Juveniles – named after a wine bar in Paris, delivers aromas of wild herbs, sweet plum, and cherry sauce, licorice spice-cabinet, and underbrush to go with a medium to full-bodied, supple, and absolutely delicious texture and mouth feel. Upfront and ready to go, crowd pleasing, yet still elegant and balanced, this should be enjoyed over the coming 3-5 years.



91

2010 WOODCUTTER'S SHIRAZ

RATING: 91

FROM: Barossa Valley, South Australia

VARIETY: Shiraz

DRINK: 2012 - 2016

Stepping things up in terms of richness and concentration, the 2010 Torbreck Woodcutter's Red is 100% Shiraz that spent 12 months in foudre prior to bottling unfiltered and unfiltered. Inky purple in color, with textbook Barossa Valley aromas blackberries, spice, pepper, wild herbs, and smoke, this medium to full-bodied, beautifully balanced red stays remarkably light and fresh on the palate, showing a tight, concentrated core of fruit, fresh acids, and ripe tannin that frames the finish. As with the 2010 Juveniles, this will be even better in a year or three, and have around a decade of longevity.

2008 THE STEADING

RATING: 91

FROM: Barossa Valley, South Australia

VARIETY: A Proprietary Blend

DRINK: 2012 - 2016

The same blend as the Cuvée Juveniles and 60% Grenache, 20% Mataro, and 20% Shiraz, the 2008 Torbreck The Steading spent 24 months in neutral French oak Hogsheads prior to being bottled unfiltered and unfiltered. Perfumed and aromatic, with loads of Provençal herbs, Asian spice, mint, and meaty qualities, as well as a solid core of plum and cherry centered fruit, this hits the palate with a silky, seamless texture, excellent balance, and a light, clean finish. Upfront, ready to go, and straight up delicious, this will shine for 3-5 years.



91

2009 WOODCUTTER'S RVM

RATING: 91

FROM: Eden Valley, South Australia

VARIETY: Proprietary blend

DRINK: 2010 - 2014

Much more rich and full, the 2009 Torbreck Woodcutter's Roussanne Viognier Marsanne checks in as blend of 55% Roussanne, 25% Marsanne, and 20% Viognier, with the Roussanne kept in tank and the Marsanne and Viognier in seasoned French oak. Deep yellow in color, it offers up Châteauneuf-du-Pape Blanc aromas of ripe tropical fruits, green almonds, honeysuckle, and mineral to go with a full-bodied, rich, yet beautifully balanced palate. There's plenty of palate weight here, yet it stays remarkably fresh and clean. Enjoy bottles over the coming 3-4 years

2011 WOODCUTTER'S SEMILLON

RATING: 90

FROM: Barossa Valley, South Australia

VARIETY: Semillon

DRINK: 2012 - 2014

A racy, delicious white that is hard to resist, the 2010 Torbreck Woodcutter's Semillon (from very old vines and fermented in a combination of stainless steel and neutral oak) is loaded with ripe peach, melon, flower oil, and mineral aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied and brilliantly focused and clean, this nevertheless has solid texture and richness that comes out more on the mid-palate and finish. It's the perfect starter to a meal, and should be consumed over the coming year or two.

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