

THE SUMPTUOUS EDINBURGH DOZENS

Two of each wine is included in each dozen. WINE REVIEWS NICK STOCK



In every issue of *Sumptuous* you will have the opportunity to sample three different dozens of wine – most carefully and thoughtfully put together by the expert Edinburgh Cellars team with Sommelier Nick Stock. You can choose to purchase any or all of the dozens at a special rate for *Sumptuous* subscribers. This will enable you access to some of the country's most sought after wines – some will be familiar and there will also be some surprises to encourage you to sample different wines. If you are a subscriber to *Sumptuous* magazine, you receive automatic membership to the Wine Club and are eligible for the special rate.

CRACKERS \$150.00 (retail price \$194.00)

'Cracker' is a seldom-used technical term for damn good value wine with real spunk. These wines are all about you, no seriously serious winemaker jargon or university style wine appreciation papers needed. To get a berth in this dozen there's one simple equation, flavour over price. These wines over deliver on quality for the money and represent a collection of the best value buys we have tasted. They are right on the ball and offer reliably good drinking. Enough said really. *The Crackers dozen includes two bottles each of the following wines:*

Moculta Shiraz 01
Glaetzer Wallace Red 03
Serafino Cabernet Sauvignon 02
Hanwood Chardonnay 03
B3 Semillon 04
Woodstock Shiraz Cab 01

2003 Glaetzer Wallace Red

Sourced from a couple of vineyards in the Ebenezer district, this wine has some real form. There's a good mix of red fruits, really fleshy vibrant and primary, lots on offer. Some sweet spicy notes add another layer of interest to the fruit; the shiraz and Grenache have integrated beautifully. It's a ripe, creamy wine with really soft, easy-going tannins, strongly raspberry-flavoured with a neat twist of orange zest. Yet another superb wine from young Ben Glaetzer et al.

2002 Serafino Cabernet Sauvignon

McLaren Vale Cabernet was nicely tempered by the unbelievably cool 2002 season, bringing it right into the zone of varietal expression and true Cabernet character. This is the 'serious' wine of the dozen with leafy aromas, black olive and some of the more savoury Cabernet side on show. Lots of violet perfume, really charming and intense, a waft of mint and lots of choc-berry flavour. This is incredible value McLaren Vale Cabernet with ample fruit for the extra structure.

2003 Hanwood Chardonnay

Consistently one of the star turns in big volume chardonnay wines from the team at McWilliams. The nose is all chardonnay, ripe and creamy with some bread dough yeast-derived aromas adding interest. They've crafted a cleverly shaped palate with a fluid easy shape to it, delivering lots of ripe melon flavoured fruits laced with a drizzle of honey and some more ripe tropical fruit characters. The finish brings in some subtle nutty flavours with acidity holding everything neat and tidy.

WOW! WINES \$200.00 (retail price \$248.00)

Our panel tastes a lot of wine; it's all hard work really, no really. Well, not all hard work, because some wines come along in the crowd and just choose themselves. We call these "wow" wines because they just impress the hell out of everyone who tastes them. They're all benchmarks in their respective categories and demonstrate the best combination of regional and varietal characters, made with immediate enjoyment in mind. They've certainly made an impression on us, we're sure you'll feel the same. *The Wow! Wines Dozen includes two bottles each of the following:*

Torbreck Woodcutters Shiraz 04
Hewitson Miss Harry GSM 03
Lake Breeze Bernoota 01
Cape Jaffa Shiraz 02
Geoff Weaver Sauvignon Blanc 04
St Hallett Riesling 04

2004 Torbreck Woodcutters Shiraz

The entry level in a high-rolling stable of wines, Woodcutters is a blend of many Barossan vineyards to deliver an up-front shiraz with early drinking in mind. Really juicy earthy shiraz fruit smells give some tar and spice amongst nicely ripe plum fruit and blackberry pip aromas. Not bad. There's enough fruit here for two bottles, plenty to get your teeth into, all soft supple and smooth with charm coming from all angles. It throws up delicious musky fragrance in the mouth finishing with slippery tannin, truly quaffable and perfect after a long day in the forest.

2001 Lake Breeze Bernoota

I've always rated the 2001 Bernoota very strongly; in fact, this is one of Langhorne Creek's most consistently good drinks. A fair dinkum Australian classic blended from Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon, the two are really well integrated offering berry and plum fruit aromas with a dose and a half of oak in the mix. The plum flavoured shiraz has the upper hand on the palate with nice juicy, supple presence. Tannins have already softened so it's ready to roll, nothing's over the top, this is great drinking.

2004 St Hallett Riesling

This has terrific Eden Valley fragrance and really defined lime peel aromas which all add up to a standout Riesling. There's an underlying trace of bath salts also typical of the region, really intense aromas, this wine smells fresh and full of life with piercing character. St. Hallett is consistently on the money with their Eden Valley wine, there's lots of ripe lime citrus flavour, a settled and balanced wine with enough structure to cellar, particularly under screwcap.

