

Volume 5 Round 4 November 2002
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ALKOOMI CABERNET SAUVIGNON 1999:

Winemakers Michael Staniford and Merv Lange

Winemaker's Notes: "Rich deep vibrant with purple tinges. The bouquet is fine and elegant with black and red berry fruit and anise aromas combined with spicy oak. The palate is fine and elegant with rich fruit flavours. Tight and complex, with supple intensity and length." **Cellar:** "Although soft and drinkable now, this wine will benefit from many years of bottle age."

ANDERSON SHIRAZ 1999:

Winemaker Howard Anderson

Winemaker's Notes: "Rich red colour, with some brick hues. Ripe Shiraz fruit aromas with French oak background bouquet. On the palate there is an abundance of rich sun ripened Shiraz fruit flavours, medium full-bodied palate. Maturation in two and three year old French oak has given structure and depth." **Cellar:** "This wine is wonderful drinking now with rich meat dishes or further bottle aging in a good cellar will be rewarded in another 3 or 4 years. Bottle ageing so far has been at 16 to 18 degrees C in our fully insulated winery."

ASHBROOK ESTATE MARGARET RIVER RIESLING 2002:

Winemakers Tony and Brian Devitt

Winemaker's Notes: "The mild, sunny 2002 vintage allowed delicate varieties like Riesling to display more elegant and classic varietal characters than usual. This wine, made from only free run juice has a light straw colour with tinges of green, a delicate citrus flower aroma and an attractive, clean, flavoursome palate that finishes crisp and dry. The flavour and crisp acidity gives the wine great length." **Cellar:** "The classic varietal character and excellent balance of the wine means it will age well for at least 10 years."

CRABTREE WATERVALE RIESLING 2002:

Winemaker Robert Crabtree and Tony May

Winemaker's Notes: "Light pale straw with strong green lights. Lifted tropical and citrus fruits on the nose, which follows onto the palate with good structure and length and lightness of youthful acidity". **Cellar:** "Should reach its potential at about ten years".

KIRRIHILL ESTATES ADELAIDE HILLS SAUVIGNON BLANC 2002:

Winemaker Richard Rowe

Winemaker's Notes: "The hand picked fruit was gently pressed and the free-run juice kept separate. It was cool fermented in stainless steel, and deliberately left unwooded to retain its delicious fruit and freshness. Pale straw in colour, the wine shows gooseberry and passionfruit characters on the nose, with citrus and grassy notes in evidence. Fresh, lively tropical fruits flavours fill the palate, which finishes with balanced acid and a lingering intensity." **Cellar:** "A wine to enjoy young, with the screw cap closure ensuring its freshness and vitality."

LINDSAYS HILLTOPS SHIRAZ 2000:

Winemaker Jill Lindsay

Winemaker's Notes: "Dark red in colour with glints of garnet, this wine shows typical 'Hilltops' pepper and allspice on the nose leading to a concentrated palate of berry and plum fruit, with subtle vanilla derived from American oak. Final maturation in French oak casks completes the balance adding to the persistent flavour and lingering mouth feel of the wine." **Cellar:** "This wine will continue to develop with good cellaring for many years."

MILLTON THE GROWERS SERIES VIOGNIER 2002:

Winemaker James Millton

Winemaker's Notes: "Comprising several selections of very ripe grapes the young juice was fermented in aged barrels with indigenous yeasts. The wine displays a soft mouth feel, balanced but not domineering fruit and warming alcohol and a hint of wood. The finish is soft and long." **Cellar:** "Cellaring potential 3-4 years from date of release."

STEPHEN JOHN CALRE VALLEY SHIRAZ 2000: Winemaker Stephen John

Winemaker's Notes: "Lovely depth of plum / red purple in colour. The nose exhibits fresh plums and mulberries with sweet dusty oak overtones. The palate is rich and flavoursome, with concentrated depth of sweet fruit and integrated oak complexities. A vibrant Clare Shiraz with a lovely, long, soft, velvety palate." **Cellar:** "Although very enjoyable now, it will benefit from 5 to 7 years careful cellaring."

SYLVAN SPRINGS SHIRAZ 2000: Winemaker Brian Light

Winemaker's Notes: "Grapes were machine harvested in April 2000 at 13.8 degrees Baume and placed into small open fermenters. Initial fermentation was warm up to 30C then cool to 25-28C. Pressed when dry and transferred to new and predominantly 1 and 2 year old French oak. Matured for 17 months in barrel and bottled in November 2001. The finished wine is bright, deep red in colour. The nose exhibits ripe berry, spice and oak notes. The palate is medium to full flavour of berry and spice with a firm and clean tannin astringency." **Cellar:** Medium term 5 to 8 years.

WILLOWBRIDGE ESTATE MERLOT 2001: Winemaker Rob Bowen

Winemaker's Notes: "This wine is from fruit grown on the sandy loam banks of the Preston River and from the granitic clay loams of the Ferguson Valley in the Geographe Region. The region is well respected for Merlot and this wine backs up this thesis. It has a bright ruby hue with some depth and intensity. The nose has aromas of chocolate; red berry flavours and a hint of lavender. The palate is round, soft with good depth and gentle tannins. The flavours are persistent and underpinned by the subtle use of oak. The wine has been aged in French oak for 6 months prior to blending and bottling." **Cellar:** "A wine to enjoy now, but best after careful cellaring for 5 to 6 years."

THE WILSON VINEYARD CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2000: Winemaker John Wilson

Winemaker's Notes: "An inky crimson colour. Nose is predominantly spicy and eucalypt with some aromas of stewed cherries. The palate begins robust and earthy (reflecting the high alcohol). Leafy and minty flavours harmonize with mixed berry characters. The finish is agreeably tannic but avoiding harshness. About a third of this wine was bottled with stelvin caps." **Cellar:** Medium Term 5 to 8 years.

THE WILSON VINEYARD RIESLING 2002: Winemaker John Wilson

Winemaker's Notes: "This wine displays the usual riesling characteristics of tropical fruit and lime flavours, and has an extremely long and clean finish, but a finish that is balanced by the fullness of a small modicum of the natural grape sugar." **Cellar:** "This wine has an extremely low pH (2.93), which in our experience is the portent of a wine that will live for decades."