



South Australia: Smells Like Teen Spirit

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*And I forget just why I taste
Oh yeah, I guess it makes me smile
I found it hard, it was hard to find
Oh well, whatever, nevermind
– Nirvana*

I usually leave the music allusions to colleague and consummate music buff Neal Martin, but I couldn't resist this title. There was definitely something different in the air during my most recent visit to South Australia in November 2012. Tanunda – a rural, work-a-day town in the heart of the Barossa that I have trudged through somewhat begrudgingly a number of times now over the years – was charged with new energy. The little farming town of Clare, a good two-hour drive from the urban sprawl of Adelaide, prickled with tension at the end of a long, overgrown Riesling trail. I sensed this same edgy impatience and atmosphere of challenge in ordinarily sleepy backwaters of McLaren Vale last year. The emerging defiance of youth, you can almost smell this revolution erupting in South Australia.

Being the empire state of Australian wine and home to some of its oldest wineries, the patriarchs of these estates have nurtured their sons and daughters well, both in the literal and metaphorical senses, in their ways and means, though they have remained reluctant to actually hand over the scepters. Perhaps overly so. During the last difficult decade, when in hindsight it was clear that winemaking visions were somewhat muddled by unsustainable market demands and that what was required was fresh insight and creative revision or in some cases simply renewed appreciation for what remained of the old styles, these patriarchs sat on their scepters. But the kids were restless and headed to the disused corners of their fathers' wineries or made wine in tin sheds and renovated barns – created anywhere they could. And thank God they did.

The prodigal sons and daughters are coming good with exciting and often preconception-challenging interpretations of what some of the greatest viticultural areas of the world can offer. Rapidly emerging boutique wineries such as Samuel's Gorge, Alpha, Box & Dice, Brash Higgins, Oliver's Taranga, Glaetzer, David Franz, Dan Standish, Massena, Spinifex, First Drop, Ruggabellus, Ochota Barrels, Kaesler, Teusner, Izway, Dandelion Vineyards and Sons of Eden are making noise in export markets around the world. They're mixing it up with new grapes: Fiano, Saperavi, Sangiovese, Montepulciano and Zinfandel to name a few. They're experimenting with insanely different styles ranging from a multi-vintage super-blend à la Vega Sicilia (David Franz's Larrikin) to a Nero d'Avola made in Amphoras (Brash Higgins). And whether producing elegant, softly spoken expressions of the classic grapes of the regions (Spinifex) or bolder irrefutable statements that finish with a virtual exclamation point in your mouth (Standish), they're finding their own voices. But what is for me perhaps the most compelling aspect of this emerging younger generation scene is their sense of community. I see these guys sharing ideas, sharing wines and sharing information. They applaud each other's successes; share each other's failures. They have groups. This makes them strong and ultimately shapes the spirits of their regions. The effects are apparent



in the continual improvement of their provocative wines.

Now all this isn't to say that the South Australian Gen-Ys and Millennials have sold the birth-rights of their fathers and in some cases forefathers. On the contrary. The exciting consequence of this Teen Spirit is the contrast it creates. Readers will note from the accompanying wine reviews that many of the pinnacles of greatness are still among the flagship wines of grand estates rich in patriarchal history, including: Jim Barry, Yalumba, Seppeltsfield, Henschke*, Taylors, d'Arenberg, Penfolds, Wynns, Kay Bros., Burge Family and Greenock Creek plus newer stalwarts such as Torbreck, Mollydooker, Noon, Dutschke, Pikes, Two Hands, Grosset, Ashton Hills, Grant Burge, Eldridge Estate, Shaw & Smith and Clarendon Hills – to name but a few. But it is no coincidence that there is a fresh spring in the step of those with seniority, thanks in part to showing the kids they still know a thing or two and not forgetting that a lot of the hard graft performed in the vineyards and wineries is carried out by their ambitious young sons and daughters. If this lot have anything to do with it, South Australia is well set to break out of the doldrums with their fresh-approach fighting wines.

Vintage Comments

Speaking with South Australia based wine commentator/marketer Paul Henry, he pointed out South Australia's "pigeon pair" of strong vintages hitting markets – 2010 for reds and 2012 for whites – and he's not wrong. The 2010 vintage that I commented on in last year's report continues to show itself as a truly great year right across South Australia for the reds. The character of the wines tends to bold, ripe, robust and with a swagger in their walk: business as usual. Then came 2011.

2011 & 2012 Vintages

These two vintages were chalk and cheese. The weather in 2011, covered in last year's report, was rain, rain and more rain for most of South Australia with McLaren Vale faring notably better than other regions. The best 2011 wines are very good but a real stylistic departure from the perhaps preconceived big, fruit-driven, high-octane notions of South Australian reds. They are medium bodied with earthy/savory/spicy characters and relatively light (when well managed) on the tannins. 2012 was an easy-peasy, reasonably dry, sunny, faith-restoring vintage for South Australian growers with no extreme heat episodes and but a few patches of benevolent rain. In my last report on "Australian Wine Values," I noted, "The styles and signatures from 2012 are back to those generous flavors that we all know and love, but I would like to think winemakers learned a thing or two from 2011 and are crafting with a new-found courage for forging elegance while working with the intensity that warmer vintages and regions naturally want to give." The 2012 Rieslings from Clare and Eden Valley are all in bottle and are available or will soon be available, depending on your market/distributor. Generally speaking, 2012 was a great year for Riesling yielding exotic-fruit scented, surprisingly forward and approachable wines that have the concentration and acid backbones to stand the test of time. Few 2012 reds were in bottle in time for my tastings but based on my barrel tastings this appears to be another incredible year for South Australian reds, forged from a text-book growing season and a newfound finesse thanks to the benefit of 2011 hindsight and, I'd like to think, strongly influenced by South Australia's burgeoning "Teen Spirit."

2008 Vintage

Many of the icon wineries in South Australia will be soon releasing their 2008s. As a quick refresher and update, 2008 was that year, when a scorcher of a heat-wave hit South Australia and parts of Victoria at harvest time. The



result was what many winemakers called, “a tale of two vintages.” Prior to the heat wave, temperatures had been moderate with no heat spikes – near perfect conditions. In fact, some producers were already banking-on the vintage of the century. But you should never count your grapes before they’re harvested. The majority of producers throughout South Australia were affected because they had not harvested their red grapes before the extreme heat hit without warning. When the heat came it was a matter of choosing children to save. After all, it is not at all common in South Australia for weather conditions to necessitate that all the fruit from all the vineyards comes in all at once. But such was the intensity of this heat-wave that it was immediately apparent that the vines had shut down and fruit was literally shriveling on the vine. Even with every able-bodied person harvesting 24/7 in those days of the heat-wave the man-power was not enough to save everything. David Powell of Torbreck described the scene, “like being in a war.” Thus fruit picked after the heat-wave (this included most of the red grapes parcels) suffered anything from a mild to pronounced raisining affect, and this is an unfortunate characteristic of most 2008 South Australian reds. The tell-tale 2008 relatively simple under-ripe/over-ripe, raisined character is the rationale behind the relatively low score I’ve provided on our vintage chart for this year. BUT, this is a tale of two vintages, and there were some growers who had already harvested before the heat. Why? Because the fruit was ripe. How? Generally speaking, these tended to be older dry-grown bush vines (in some cases ancient vines) with small crops that usually ripen quicker and these were judicious growers who were not looking to make ultra-ripe styles. The consequence? Now with the benefit of a few years in bottle it is clear that there are a small number of extraordinary 2008 South Australia wines.

Score Summary:

96 pts	John Duval Eligo Shiraz 2009
95+ pts	Kilikanoon Oracle Shiraz 2010
95 pts	John Duval Entity Shiraz 2010
94+ pts	d'Arenberg The Tyche's Mustard Shiraz 2010
93+ pts	Kilikanoon Mort's Reserve Riesling 2012
93 pts	d'Arenberg The Other Side Shiraz 2010
93 pts	Kilikanoon Oracle Shiraz 2005
92+ pts	d'Arenberg The Little Venice Shiraz 2010
92+ pts	John Duval Plexus SGM 2010
92 pts	d'Arenberg The Amaranthine Shiraz 2010
92 pts	d'Arenberg The Fruit Bat Shiraz 2010
92 pts	d'Arenberg The Twenty Eight Road Mourvedre 2010
92 pts	Kilikanoon Covenant Shiraz 2005
91+ pts	d'Arenberg JRO Afflatus Shiraz 2010
91+ pts	d'Arenberg The Shipsters' Rapture Shiraz 2010
91+ pts	Kilikanoon Covenant Shiraz 2010
91 pts	d'Arenberg The Bamboo Scrub 2010
91 pts	d'Arenberg The Garden of Extraordinary Delights Shiraz 2010



91 pts	d'Arenberg The Swinging Malaysian Shiraz 2010
91 pts	d'Arenberg The Vociferate Dipsomaniac Shiraz 2010
91 pts	Kilikanoon Mort's Block Riesling 2002
91 pts	Kilikanoon Mort's Block Riesling 2012
90+ pts	John Duval Plexus MRV 2012
90 pts	Kilikanoon The Medley GSM 2010
89+ pts	d'Arenberg The McLaren Sands Grenache 2010
89 pts	Kilikanoon Blocks Road Cabernet Sauvignon 2010
89 pts	d'Arenberg The Blind Tiger Shiraz 2010
88 pts	d'Arenberg The Coppermine Road Cabernet Sauvignon 2010
88 pts	d'Arenberg The Hermit Crab Viognier Marsanne 2010
88 pts	Kilikanoon Killerman's Run Cabernet Sauvignon 2011
88 pts	Kilikanoon Killerman's Run Shiraz Grenache 2010
88 pts	Penley Estate Phoenix Cabernet Sauvignon 2010
88 pts	Penley Estate Hyland Shiraz 2010
87 pts	d'Arenberg The Feral Fox Pinot Noir 2010
87 pts	d'Arenberg The Sticks and Stones Tempranillo Grenache Souzao 2009
87 pts	d'Arenberg The Wild Pixie Shiraz 2010
87 pts	Kilikanoon Killerman's Run Shiraz 2011
86 pts	d'Arenberg The Broken Fishplate Sauvignon Blanc 2012
86 pts	d'Arenberg The Cenosilicaphobic Cat 2010
85 pts	d'Arenberg The Stump Jump Cabernet Sauvignon 2010





Full Reviews:

d'Arenberg

94+ pts **d'Arenberg The Tyche's Mustard Shiraz 2010**

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 Tyche's Mustard Single Vineyard Shiraz exudes fragrant blackberry, black currant and violet aromas with hints of licorice, red currants and black pepper. Medium to full-bodied with mouth-filling, juicy berry flavors that have a complex, earthy character, the wine is structured with a firm level of finely grained tannins, bright acidity and a long finish. Drink it from 2014 to 2024+.

93 pts **d'Arenberg The Other Side Shiraz 2010**

Deep purple-black in color, the 2010 The Other Side Single Vineyard Shiraz offers pronounced cassis and licorice notes with underlying hints of asphalt, mocha, Brazil nut and dried Chinese plum. The palate has concentrated berry and spice flavors with an attractive, savory edge. The firm acid backbone gives a refreshing, herbal lift to the long finish. Consider drinking it from 2014 to 2024+.

92+ pts **d'Arenberg The Little Venice Shiraz 2010**

With a deep garnet purple color, the 2010 The Little Venice Single Vineyard Shiraz offers a fruit-forward nose of ripe black cherry and blueberry notes intermingled with baking spices, star anise and chocolate box aromas. This medium to full-bodied wine is well-poised in the mouth, has a medium to firm level of rounded tannins and lively acid that gives a backbone to the expressive fruit, and has great persistence on the finish. It is approachable now and will drink to 2023+.

92 pts **d'Arenberg The Amaranthine Shiraz 2010**

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 The Amaranthine Single Vineyard Shiraz is slightly reduced at the start but eventually gives way to ripe blueberry, black currant and black plum notes over tar, licorice, bacon and dried Mediterranean herbs. Full-bodied and densely packed with earthy, black berry flavors, the medium to firm level of grainy tannins and refreshing acid carry the wine to a long, pepper-laced finish. Drink it from 2014 to 2024.

92 pts **d'Arenberg The Fruit Bat Shiraz 2010**

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 The Fruit Bat Single Vineyard Shiraz shows pronounced blackberry compote, raspberry coulis and mulberries aromas with touches of forest floor, moss-covered bark and black truffles. Full-bodied and concentrated with warm berry flavors fused with an appealing earthiness, it is well-structured with firm, rounded tannins, balanced acid and a long finish. Drink it now to 2024+.

92 pts **d'Arenberg The Twenty Eight Road Mourvedre 2010**

Deep garnet in color and tinged with purple, the 2010 Twenty Eight Road Mourvedre opens with notes of black plums, mulberries and dark chocolate with nuances of vegemite, licorice, fertile soil and chargrilled meat. Medium to full-bodied, this wine displays a good core of ripe, rich fruit complemented by exotic spice and earth flavors. Both the medium-firm level of grainy tannins and balanced acid lend good balance and length to the finish. Drink it now to 2017+.



91+ pts d'Arenberg JRO Afflatus Shiraz 2010

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 J.R.O. Afflatus Single Vineyard Shiraz presents aromas of crushed cassis and wild blueberries with underlying cedar, yeast extract and Provencal herb nuances. Medium to full-bodied, it is very youthful and tightly knit in the mouth with a firm backbone of chewy tannins, medium to high acid and a long finish. Consider drinking it from 2014 to 2022+.

91+ pts d'Arenberg The Shipsters' Rapture Shiraz 2010

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 Shipsters' Rapture Single Vineyard Shiraz opens with a slightly muted nose of red currants, red plums and cassis with whiffs of cedar, forest floor and charcoal. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is tightly wound and led by a structure of firm, somewhat astringent tannins, and a crisp acid line. It finishes long, though is a little hard and closed. It shows a lot of promise and may prove my score as overly conservative. Consider drinking from 2014 to 2022+.

91 pts d'Arenberg The Bamboo Scrub 2010

Deep purple-black in color, the 2010 The Bamboo Scrub Single Vineyard Shiraz has heady notes of chargrilled meat, tar, anise and violets that overlay an aromatic fruit core of black plums and cassis. Medium-bodied and packed with earthy and meaty black fruit flavors, it is supported with a medium to firm level of grainy tannins, crisp acidity and a long finish. Drink it from 2014 to 2023+.

91 pts d'Arenberg The Garden of Extraordinary Delights Shiraz 2010

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 The Garden of Extraordinary Delights Single Vineyard Shiraz has a nose of black cherries, spiced blueberries and red currants over hints of dried mulberries, allspice, black pepper and cedar. Full-bodied and richly fruited in the mouth, it has medium to high levels of velvety tannins, lively acid and finishes long with a slight herbal lift. Drink now to 2022+.

91 pts d'Arenberg The Swinging Malaysian Shiraz 2010

Deep purple-black in color, the 2010 The Swinging Malaysian Single Vineyard Shiraz reveals youthfully muted aromas of black currants, red plums and black pepper with nuances of salami, dried herbs and damp soil. Taut and muscular, with plenty of savory, peppery flavors and firm chewy tannins, this medium-bodied wine finishes long and earthy. Drink it from 2014 to 2022+.

91 pts d'Arenberg The Vociferate Dipsomaniac Shiraz 2010

Deep garnet-purple in color, the nose on the 2010 The Vociferate Dipsomaniac Single Vineyard Shiraz is dense with blueberry compote and stewed plum aromas over touches of blackberry preserves, spice cake, vanilla pod and dark chocolate. Full-bodied and packed with ripe fruit in the mouth, it is framed by a medium level of chewy tannins, medium to high balanced acidity and a long, savory finish. Drink it from 2014 to 2022+.

89+ pts d'Arenberg The McLaren Sands Grenache 2010

Medium dense, ruby-garnet in color with a hint of purple, the 2010 McLaren Sand Hills Sub-Regional Grenache flaunts aromas of kirsch, raspberry preserves and mandarin peel with hints of Chinese five spice and forest floor. With ample red berry and spice flavors, balanced acidity and medium level of



velvety tannins, this medium to full-bodied wine finishes long. It is approachable now and will drink to 2021+.

89 pts d'Arenberg The Blind Tiger Shiraz 2010

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 The Blind Tiger Single Vineyard Shiraz has a slightly closed nose with notes of tar, licorice and dark chocolate over a core of black berry and black plum with a whiff of fertile loam. Medium to full-bodied, taut, and a little bitter in the mouth, it has a firm level of slightly astringent tannins, medium-high acidity and a long finish. Drink it from 2014 to 2021+.

88 pts d'Arenberg The Coppermine Road Cabernet Sauvignon 2010

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 Coppermine Road Cabernet Sauvignon is redolent of stewed plums, black currant cordial and dried Mediterranean herbs with suggestions of tree bark and menthol. With a good line of medium to firm grainy tannins this medium-bodied wine also has refreshing acid to support the muscular black berry and herbal flavors, and a long length on the finish. Drink this wine now to 2017+.

88 pts d'Arenberg The Hermit Crab Viognier Marsanne 2010

The 2010 The Hermit Crab Viognier Marsanne reveals aromas of honeyed peach, pineapple and guava with touches of allspice and poached pears. Medium-bodied with a pleasant oiliness to the texture, the wine's expressive spiced pear and lemon curd notes are marked by crisp acid through the long finish. Drink it now to 2014+.

87 pts d'Arenberg The Feral Fox Pinot Noir 2010

Pale to medium ruby-purple in color, the 2010 The Feral Fox Pinot Noir offers aromas of kirsch, red currants and crushed cranberries with whiffs of forest floor and cinnamon stick. With a good amount of ripe, red berry flavors and crisp acidity this medium-bodied wine is supported by a low to medium level of silky tannins and finishes long with just a suggestion of dried herbs. Drink it now to 2015+.

87 pts d'Arenberg The Sticks and Stones Tempranillo Grenache Souzao 2009

Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2009 The Sticks & Stones Tempranillo Grenache Tinta Cao Souzao has an alluring nose of raspberry preserves, kirsch and mulberries with touches of spice box, sandalwood and fruit cake. This medium-bodied wine offers a good amount of warm, red berry flavors that are marked by slightly tart acidity, a medium level of chewy tannins and a long finish. Drink it now to 2015+.

87 pts d'Arenberg The Wild Pixie Shiraz 2010

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 The Wild Pixie Shiraz Roussanne fuses aromas of blueberry pie and blackberry preserves with an underlying current of mocha, star anise and dried mint notes. This medium-bodied wine possesses a good amount of fruit and acid freshness along with just enough tannic chewiness in the texture. It has a medium-long finish. Drink it now to 2015+.

86 pts d'Arenberg The Broken Fishplate Sauvignon Blanc 2012

The 2012 The Broken Fishplate Sauvignon Blanc opens with intense notes of asparagus, capsicum and newly-mown grass with underlying lemon juice and green apple hints. Light to medium-bodied with a



very good intensity of primarily herbal flavors, the citrus fruit shines through in the long, zesty finish. Drink it now to 2014.

86 pts d'Arenberg The Cenophilic Cat 2010

Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 The Cenophilic Cat Sagrantino Cinsault has moderately intense notes of mulberries, black plums and blackberries with hints of dried thyme, black pepper and soy. Medium-bodied with very crisp acidity, the wine's medium to high levels of chewy tannins place a structured emphasis on the black berry and earth flavors before finishing with a medium to long persistence. Drink it now to 2015+.

85 pts d'Arenberg The Stump Jump Cabernet Sauvignon 2010

Deep garnet in color with a touch of purple, the 2010 The Stump Jump Cabernet Sauvignon has a pronounced nose of warm black currant and plums with underlying dried herb and capsicum hints plus a whiff of loam. The medium-bodied palate has a good amount of dark fruit and distinctive herbal, steak flavors that are framed by lively acidity and a medium level of chewy tannins. It has a medium to long length and will drink from now to 2015.

John Duval

96 pts John Duval Eligo Shiraz 2009

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2009 Eligo Shiraz has pronounced creme de cassis, blueberry preserves and warm mulberry notes with an undercurrent of cedar, lavender, chocolate box, Indian spices and cardamom. Medium to full-bodied and tightly-knit on the palate, it has a vibrant acid line cutting through the dense fruit layers and medium-firm, grainy tannins to support a long and spicy finish. Drink from 2015 to 2025+.

95 pts John Duval Entity Shiraz 2010

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 Entity Shiraz is scented of ripe blueberries, mulberries and Chinese dried plum with vanilla pod, dark chocolate, cedar, violet and fruit cake nuances. This full-bodied wine is densely packed with black berry preserve and baking spice flavors, has a refreshing acid line to add lift and medium to firm levels of rounded tannins. It has a long length with some oak poking through on the finish. Drink it from 2014 to 2024+.

92+ pts John Duval Plexus SGM 2010

Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2010 Plexus Shiraz, Grenache, Mourvedre is a blend of Shiraz 52%, Grenache 29% and Mourvedre 19%. This wine opens with notes of blackberry preserves, blueberry compote and warm black plums over suggestions of vanilla, cinnamon toast, anise, espresso and mandarin peel. Full-bodied and generously fruited with warm black berry and spice flavors plus a touch of oak, it has a good backbone of medium to firm finely-grained tannins and just enough acid to balance through the long finish. It's delicious now but should improve with 2-3 years in bottle and drink well to 2022+.



90+ pts John Duval Plexus MRV 2012

The 2012 Plexus Marsanne, Roussanne, Viognier has a very pretty nose of acacia honey, jasmine and orange blossoms over a core of fresh pears, golden delicious apples and nectarines. Medium-bodied with a nice hint of phenolic texture and real elegance to the fruit expression, it finishes long and a little spicy. Drink it now to 2015+.

Kilikanoon

95+ pts Kilikanoon Oracle Shiraz 2010

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 Shiraz Oracle is redolent of blueberry preserves, macerated black fruits, cassis and aniseed with a touch of Provencal herbs and mint. Medium-bodied, crisp and framed by medium to firm velvety tannins, it is fresh and finishes long. It is a more restrained, elegant style of wine that should age wonderfully. Drink it from 2015 to 2026+.

93+ pts Kilikanoon Mort's Reserve Riesling 2012

The 2012 Riesling Mort's Reserve displays a pretty, exotic fruit and floral nose with citrus zest intermingled with some chalkiness. Crisp, clean with a very tight and tense structure, it finishes long with mineral notes. It's a great wine that is approachable but should drink best from 2014 to 2024+.

93 pts Kilikanoon Oracle Shiraz 2005

Deep garnet-brick in color, the 2005 Shiraz Oracle offers spiced notes with dried berries, mocha, espresso and licorice. This big, rich and full-bodied red is spicy and plush, has medium levels of soft tannins and just enough acid freshness. It finishes long. Drink it now to 2019+.

92 pts Kilikanoon Covenant Shiraz 2005

The 2005 Shiraz Covenant is deep garnet and brick in color and opens with savory aromas of meat, spice and dried plums followed by a touch of menthol. It is quite gamey and meaty on the palate with a good primary core of fruit that is evolving nicely in the mouth. This big and full-bodied wine is overall harmonious with crisp acid and medium levels of velvety tannins balancing a long and voluptuous finish. Drink it now to 2018+.

91+ pts Kilikanoon Covenant Shiraz 2010

Deep garnet-purple, the 2010 Shiraz Covenant displays ripe black cherries, blackberries and blueberries with some cloves, mint and anise. Tightly knit and elegant, it is medium to full-bodied with a medium level of rounded tannins, a vibrant acid line that lingers through the long finish. Approachable now, it will drink to 2022+.

91 pts Kilikanoon Mort's Block Riesling 2002

The 2002 Riesling Mort's Block has lovely, slow-evolving lemon curd and honeysuckle aromas with hints of straw and lanolin. Crisp and nicely balanced in the mouth, it has a savory character and yeastiness in the long finish. Drink it now to 2016+.



91 pts Kilikanoon Mort's Block Riesling 2012

The 2012 Riesling Mort's Block reveals an intense nose of lime zest and white blossoms, honeyed peach and a touch of pineapple. Tight and crisp in the mouth, it has great intensity and a long finish. It should age well. Drink it now to 2020+.

90 pts Kilikanoon The Medley GSM 2010

Medium deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 The Medley GSM gives ripe red berry and raspberry preserve aromas with undercurrents of baking spices, mulberries and mint. Vibrant and fruity in the mouth, it has a medium level of silky tannins followed by a long, crisp finish. Drink it now to 2018+.

89 pts Kilikanoon Blocks Road Cabernet Sauvignon 2010

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon Block's Road displays ripe black currant, black plums and menthol on the nose with undertones of dark chocolate and cloves. Medium to full-bodied, this mouth-filling wine is crisp and supported by medium levels of fine-grained tannins. It finishes long. Drink it now to 2019.

88 pts Kilikanoon Killerman's Run Cabernet Sauvignon 2011

Medium deep garnet-purple in color, the 2011 Cabernet Sauvignon Killerman's Run has a nose of creme de cassis, ripe plums and baking spices with a whiff of anise. Medium-bodied and crisp with nice, pure fruit character, it has low to medium levels of chewy tannins and a long finish. Drink it now to 2018.

88 pts Kilikanoon Killerman's Run Shiraz Grenache 2010

Medium garnet-purple in color, the 2010 Shiraz Grenache Killerman's Run offers up vibrant black fruits, red cherries, eucalyptus and anise notes. Medium-bodied, it is crisp with low to medium levels of velvety tannins and a long finish. Drink it now to 2018.

87 pts Kilikanoon Killerman's Run Shiraz 2011

Medium deep garnet-purple in color, the 2011 Shiraz Killerman's Run offers ripe cassis, blackberries and tar notes aside some hints of tree bark. Medium-bodied, crisp and fresh, it is a peppery and savory style of wine with soft tannins and a long finish. Drink it now to 2018.

Penley Estate

88 pts Penley Estate Phoenix Cabernet Sauvignon 2010

Deep garnet purple in color, the 2010 Phoenix Cabernet Sauvignon opens with aromas of cassis, warm blackberries and mulberries with hints of spice box, damp earth and pencil shavings. This medium to full-bodied wine has good core of muscular, herb-laced fruit supported by a medium to firm level of chewy tannins, refreshing acid and a long finish. Drink it now to 2017+.

88 pts Penley Estate Hyland Shiraz 2010

Medium-deep, garnet-purple in color, the 2010 Hyland Shiraz is scented of ripe black plums, black cherries and blackberries with touches of pepper, roses, vanilla and cinnamon stick. With plenty of ripe berry and pepper flavors lifted by a lively acid line, this medium to full-bodied wine is framed by a medium level of rounded tannins and finishes with a medium-long length. Drink it now to 2016.