



Head to the hills for a shiraz

Kiola Shiraz 2006

Kiola is a small producer based at Boorowa in the NSW Hilltops wine growing region. They are primarily a shiraz producer, a variety that has proven to do particularly well there.

The wine is a youthful, dark plum purple colour. The aromas are fresh and lively with sweet ripe red and blackberry fruit including raspberry and plums.

There is added spice and coffee aromas adding another degree of interest. The palate is medium-bodied with a fine structure. The rich fruit flavours are balanced well with the oak maturation characters. There are chocolate and menthol flavours that show through after the wine has been sitting in the glass for a while. The tannins are pleasantly grippy and should integrate further with some more time in the bottle.

Price: \$18
Cellar: 2010-2014



Cellar Press

David Cumming

Tyrrell's Rufus Stone McLaren Vale Shiraz 2007

The Rufus Stone wines are part of the broad Tyrrell's range of wines. There are two Rufus Stone wines, both of which are shiraz. One is from Victoria's Heathcote region, and the other from the more known McLaren Vale region, south of Adelaide. Tyrrell's has owned vineyards in these regions since the 1990s.

The 2007 vintage McLaren Vale Shiraz opens up with lovely coffee, chocolate and spice aromas combining with dark plum, chary oak and vanillin. The palate is well balanced with some dusty tannins and good length of flavour. It's an excellent partner to a dish such as steak and mushroom pie.

Price: \$18
Cellar: 2010-2014



Houghton Sauvignon Blanc Semillon 2008

The Houghton brand is a bit of a mainstay in Australia. It has consistently shown to be a quality wine at a very reasonable price. The Houghton Classic White is a wine that drinks well in its youth, whilst being able to be cellared, developing into a wonderfully rich and flavoursome wine.

One of the newer additions to the Houghton range is the sauvignon blanc semillon. This is a fresh and zesty wine with passionfruit, lemon and citrus combining with a degree of grassiness, evident in many Western Australian wines. There are some good flavours here, and it's worth revisiting this wine as an alternative to the vast array of New Zealand sannies that are flooding our shelves.

Price: \$10
Cellar: 2009-2011

