



Wine that deserves attention

Brookland Valley Chardonnay 2009

CHARDONNAY is one of the world's great wine grapes, and the most sought after variety in the world. Or it was, until the mighty sauvignon blanc pushed it aside in recent years. However, this is more within Australia than globally, where white burgundy, chablis and champagne continue to rule supreme.

In Australia we are tending to overlook some fantastic chardonnay wines that are being made in



regions such as Margaret River, Yarra Valley and Orange. The Brookland Valley 2009 Chardonnay is one wine that deserves attention. Buttery, honey, spice and toasty notes are evident on the nose, followed by fleshy citrus, including lemon and grapefruit flavours on the palate. Time in the cellar will integrate the oak maturation further.

Price: \$45
Cellar: 2012-2017

Tulloch Semillon Sauvignon Blanc 2008

TULLOCH is a Hunter Valley-based winemaker that has had a bit of a renaissance over the past few years. The brand was established in 1895 when John Tulloch accepted 43 acres of land for settlement of a debt. The land had five acres of neglected shiraz vines which John reinvigorated. History has a way of repeating itself, as current owner Jay Tulloch has shown when he purchased his family winery back from the Southcorp conglomerate in 2001 and once again started to breathe life back into it.

The 2008 semillon sauvignon blanc isn't the current release, but bottles are still in the shops. It's a lively wine with aromas of citrus, gooseberry and a varietal grassiness. The flavours are zesty with grapefruit and lemon rind, and plenty of length.

Price: \$16.99
Cellar: 2010-2012



Rolling Semillon Sauvignon Blanc 2009

HERE'S another example of a semillon sauvignon blanc blend. As with the Tulloch from the Hunter Valley, the Rolling shows the varietal grassiness along with sweet stonefruit and citrus flavours. The Rolling wines are made from grapes grown at an altitude of 550-600 metres in the Central Ranges region. Above this altitude, the region becomes Orange region.

There are a number of winemakers around

Orange growing fruit below 600 metres and the wines are often slightly cheaper and offer some great value. To compare, many of the Adelaide Hills vineyards sit at around 400 to 700 metres and command a premium price. Time will tell, however as these Central Ranges wines become more recognised in the marketplace, the prices will probably increase accordingly so enjoy them before the secret is lost.

Price: \$17.95
Cellar: 2010-2011