



A blend akin to Batman and Robin



Dindima Cabernet Merlot 2005

CABERNET sauvignon merlot is a great blend as each variety offers a characteristic that the other lacks – sort of like Batman and Robin. Think cabernet sauvignon as Batman (brash, yet complex and dark) and merlot as Robin (softer, youthful and often overlooked). The merlot softens the sometimes harshness of the cabernet sauvignon as well as filling the palate and increasing the complexity and interest of the finished wine. The Dindima 2005 shows perfumed varietal blackcurrant and red berry aromas. The palate is balanced with berry and cool climate spiciness. It is well structured with a nice grippy finish which should soften with age

Price: \$30
Cellar: 2010



Penfolds Bin 311 Orange Chardonnay 2007

I RECKON it's a great indication of success, from a quality perspective, when one of the country's leading brands releases a wine from your region. With access to the best fruit from all over the country, Penfolds, owned by Fosters, has made their 2007 Bin 311 Chardonnay entirely from Orange fruit. This shows their strong opinion of the quality of Orange chardonnay. It is a complex wine with varietal nectarine, citrus and grapefruit flavours, with added minerality and steeliness. Green apple flavours and a touch of almond nuttiness abound within a tightly structured wine with excellent acid. This wine should improve with age.

Cellar: 2009-2013
Price: \$49



Hardys Sir James Sparkling Shiraz NV

SALES of sparkling shiraz have probably slumped now that Christmas is over. It's a great wine to enjoy with the Christmas turkey, with its wonderful sparkling red/pink mousse and rich velvety texture. However, with a wine that is uniquely Australian, it should be consumed more often. Life is a celebration, and that's enough of a reason to open a bottle. The Sir James, made by the very well respected sparkling winemaker Ed Carr, shows elegant berry fruit with a balanced blend of sweet and savoury, meaty flavours. There is good oak treatment and lovely length.

Cellar: 2009-2011
Price: \$28

