

A neat fit in the fridge



Cellar Press

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BUD NAKED MCLAREN VALE SHIRAZ TEMPRANILLO

THE Bud Naked wines are a new initiative from Constellation Wines (previously known as The Hardy Wine Company). The two wines in the range are packaged in a very smart looking 1.5 litre soft pack which is a logical progression from the cask. They fit neatly in the door of the fridge and supposedly stay fresh for up to a month. No doubt this is probably rarely tested. I liked the shiraz tempranillo blend better than the Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc. It shows pleasant plummy fruit flavours with a touch of spice, pepper and earthiness. There are some dusty tannins which add to the appeal of the wine.

Price: \$20
Cellar: 2009



OYSTER BAY SAUVIGNON BLANC 2008

THE Oyster Bay Sauvignon Blanc has gained a huge following in Australia over the past few years. The wine is refreshing and crisp, with a good amount of flavour for the price. It's one of those wines that you can find in most bottle shops, and it shows consistent quality with no surprises. This can be a bit dull when you're looking for an interesting wine, but a safe bet if the bottle that you come across has a very limited choice. The wine is typical of New Zealand sauvignon blanc, with loads of assertive lime, passionfruit, tropical and grassy flavours, finishing crisp and refreshing.

Price: \$18
Cellar: 2009-2010



PEPPER TREE COQUUN HUNTER VALLEY SHIRAZ 2007

THE 2007 vintage in the Hunter Valley was very much influenced by drought conditions. The overall crop was down by around a third, which increased the concentration of fruit flavours in the grapes that were harvested. This is evident in this shiraz from Pepper Tree.

The colour is fantastic; a youthful ruby red. The aromas are fresh and lively with raspberry, mulberry and plum notes. These become more intense as the wine sits in the glass. The flavours are spicy and peppery with red berry fruits balanced by soft, subtle tannins and oak. It is a medium bodied wine with lovely, elegant length of flavour.

Price: \$31.
Cellar: 2009 - 2018