



To sip now or later



LOCAL HERO

GROVE ESTATE HILLTOPS SEMILLON 2007



Cellar Press

David Cumming

Semillon continues to be unfashionable, which is a real pity. There are some absolute cracking Semillons in the market which are well worth sourcing. Some can be cellared for many years, turning from fresh crisp, citrusy wines into wines that are golden beauties with complex honey and toasty characters. The 2007 Grove Estate is a medium-bodied wine to enjoy now and is great with food. It has citrusy grapefruit and lemon flavours that linger in the mouth. With a few years in the cellar, this wine will show more nutty complexity.

Cellar: 2009 – 2013.
Price: \$19

ONE TO SAVOUR

LARRY CHERUBINO AD HOC 'MIDDLE OF EVERYWHERE' SHIRAZ 2005

Larry Cherubino is a winemaker from Western Australia that made his name with Hardys and then Houghton. In 2005 he started his own brand, with a number of wines, include the Ad Hoc range. The packaging is a very striking, giving a good indication of the wine in the bottle. This shiraz is from Frankland River in Western Australia. It shows aromas of red berry, fruit cake, coffee, chocolate and liquorice. These flow through to the palate which is nicely balanced and structured, with light, velvety tannins. The wine needs a bit of time in the glass to open up.

Cellar: 2009 – 2013.
Price: \$23



ONE FOR TONIGHT

DE BORTOLI SACRED HILL SEMILLON SAUVIGNON BLANC 2008

De Bortoli has been making some excellent wines recently. It have been getting a lot of publicity for its Yarra Valley wines, especially the chardonnay and pinot noir. These are certainly good wines, and the quality and attention to detail of the winery has flowed through to the less expensive wines with their huge range. The Sacred Hill wines are sourced from vineyards in the Riverina. Often the semillon sauvignon blanc blends from this area lack real varietal flavours. However, the Sacred Hill is not one of these. It has loads of fresh passionfruit and cut grass aromas with tropical fruit and citrus flavours on the palate. The finish is dry and crisp.

Cellar: drink now.
Price: \$8.99

