

## Age

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## Under \$18

### Cockatoo Ridge Semillon Sauvignon Blanc 2010 \$9-\$12

A PLEASANT young white like this for less than \$12 is a very useful thing. From Cockatoo Ridge's new headquarters at Riverton in South Australia, it opens with lemon, melon and herbal aromas of pleasantly clean qualities. The palate is light and quenching with straightforward flavours and reasonable persistence. (11 per cent alcohol; screw cap.)

**Ageing?** No.

**Food ideas** Fish and chips; Vietnamese rice paper rolls.

**Stockists include** Maxi Foods, Blackburn North and Ferntree Gully; Montmorency Foodworks.

★★★★ \$\$\$



### Trentham Shiraz 2009 \$12-\$14

TRENTHAM Estate, on the New South Wales side of the Murray Valley from Mildura, is a consistent source of good quality, reasonably priced wines. Their '09 shiraz has earthy dark-berry aromas touched with spices and the medium weight palate is smoothly constructed with plenty of ripe flavour, fresh acidity and soft tannins. (14.5 per cent alcohol; screw cap.)

**Ageing?** No.

**Food ideas** Eggplant lasagne; pizza

**Stockists include** Royal Hotel, Clifton Hill; Camberwell South Cellars.

★★★★ \$\$\$



## \$18-\$30

### Tim Smith Barossa Mataro Grenache Shiraz 2009 \$27-\$29

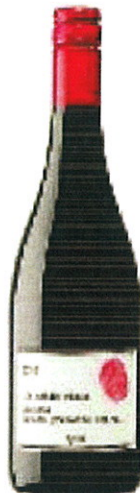
MATARO, grenache and shiraz make a traditional Barossa blend but too many of these wines tend to have rather neanderthal personalities based on power and heat. Tim Smith's version is more elegant. Ripe blackberry and plum, spice and ironstone aromas lead through a velvety, seamless palate of delicious balance, softness and persistence. (14.5 per cent alcohol; screw cap.)

**Ageing?** Drink over four years.

**Food ideas** Braised shoulder of lamb mature cheddar.

**Stockists include** Toorak Cellars.

★★★★ \$



### Ad Hoc Straw Man Sauvignon Blanc Semillon 2010 \$20-\$22

A YOUNG Margaret River blend that shows how refined such wines can be. It wraps aromas of lime, straw, guava and Asian herbs into an appetising mix and the finely poised palate has real succulence. Sustained tropical fruit and citrus flavours, good texture and a lingering fragrant finish complete the picture. (13.4 per cent alcohol; screw cap.)

**Ageing?** Drink over two years.

**Food ideas** Grilled fish; Vietnamese-style chicken with mint and herbs.

**Stockists include** Seddon Wine Store; Purvis Liquor, Surrey Hills.

★★★★ \$\$\$

