



Under \$18

Capel Vale Debut Shiraz 2010 \$13-\$16

A PLEASANT, easy-going Western Australian red wine at a very fair price, Debut Shiraz opens with an attractive ripe-berry scent, a touch of tar and gently spicy aromas. The palate is smooth and seamless with a nicely sustained finish. Tannins are soft and attractively balanced. (Screw cap; 14 per cent alcohol.)

Ageing? No.

Food ideas Veal ravioli with tomato sauce; moussaka.

Stockists include Malvern Road Bottle Shop; Leo's Fine Food & Wine, Hartwell.

★★★★ \$\$\$



Ad Hoc Wallflower Riesling 2011 \$16-\$18

CONSISTENTLY one of the best-value wines in Australia, this intense WA riesling is a bargain. Made by Larry Cherubino from Great Southern grapes, it's pale and fragrant with delicate floral, green apple, lime and slate aromas. It's perfumed and lingering in the mouth and kept zesty by mouthwatering acidity. (Screw cap; 11.5 per cent alcohol.)

Ageing? Yes, one to five years.

Food ideas Sushi; fried whitebait.

Stockists include Seddon Wine Store; Bottega Tasca, Carlton.

★★★★★ \$\$\$



\$18-\$30

The Lane Block 3 Single Vineyard Chardonnay 2009 \$23-\$25

THIS is a straightforward Adelaide Hills chardonnay with little of the artifice that marks trendy styles. The nose has melon and tropical fruit notes with a measured seasoning of high-toned oak. It's medium in body and relatively simple in the mouth but has a pleasant personality and a light, soft finish. Easy drinking. (Screw cap; 13 per cent alcohol.)

Ageing? No.

Food ideas Pasta with a cheesy sauce; pumpkin risotto.

Stockists include Toorak Cellars; Burwood Cellars.

★★★★ \$\$



Skillogalee Shiraz 2008 \$28-\$30

THERE'S a typically minty quality to many Clare Valley reds and this is no exception. It doesn't overwhelm the juicy raspberry and blackberry-accented fruit, though, and some sweet, spicy oak adds another dimension. The medium-bodied palate has attractive depth, texture and length, with fine, drying tannins underneath. (Screw cap; 14.5 per cent alcohol.)

Ageing? Drink over five years.

Food ideas Rack of lamb; Vietnamese mint-wrapped beef.

Stockists include King & Godfree, Carlton; Dan Murphy's stores.

★★★★★ \$\$

