

## **Mollydooker Shiraz McLaren Vale Carnival of Love 2006**

A stunning wine of immense depth and integrity. Seamless from start to finish, this starts off strong and keeps building through the long, powerful finish. The flavors center on the blueberry, plum, meaty cherry, cedar and cream, with a hint of mint, and the tannins are so finely polished they gleam.

**95 Points**

## **Alain Graillot Crozes-Hermitage 2005**

A big, brawny style, with a loamy structure supporting the dark currant, tar, cocoa and fig paste flavors. Long and muscular on the finish, this needs to stretch out a bit in the cellar, through the fleshiness makes it hard to resist now.

**92 Points**

## **Jean-Louis Chave Hermitage White 2004**

Very rich, but cuts like a knife, with dried apricot, marzipan and wet stone notes leading the way for richer flavors of candle wax, heather, honey and white peach on the back end. The long, extremely taut finish seems almost tannic; this is built for a long time.

**97 Points**

## **Jean-Louis Chave Hermitage 2004**

This red offers a gorgeous beam of currant and fig paste, surrounded by ample supple tannins and notes of coffee, worn leather, violet, licorice snaps and iron. The long, rich finish has nice detail now, but better to cellar for maximum effect.

**95 Points**

## **Mollydooker Shiraz South Australia The Boxer 2006**

Ripe and smoky. A big, polished mouthful of cherry and raspberry, with peppery, spicy overtones that mingle effortlessly with the fruit as the finish sails on.

**90 Points**

## **Two Hands Ares Barossa Valley 2005**

A majestic wine that's tremendously aromatic and dense in texture, but amazingly refined. Delineates its ripe plum, blueberry and currant flavors with precision, shading the fruit with nuances of coffee and dark chocolate, hinting at smoke and licorice as the finish laps at the palate like the shore of a deep lake.

**98 Points**

**Mollydooker Shiraz McLaren Vale Velvet Glove 2006**

Rich, ripe and harmoniously balanced, this dense with blackberry, plum, licorice, cream and spice flavors that don't as the finish sails on and on. Has tremendous presence, yet remains supple through the expressive finish.

**97 Points**

**Yalumba Shiraz-Viognier Barossa Hand Picked 2005**

Seamless, polished and remarkably expressive. A wine of uncommon balance that plays its ripe cherry, plum and mulberry flavors against wisps of cream, clove and white pepper, all of it mingling harmoniously on the long, refined finish.

**94 Points**

**Grant Burge Shiraz Barossa Meshach 2002**

A big Shiraz with a flair of elegance, offering a crisp texture against a fleshy veneer of fine tannins, with a lively core of blackberry, cherry and minty, creamy notes on the long finish.

**93 Points**

**Mollydooker Shiraz-Cabernet McLaren Vale Enchanted Path 2006**

Supple in texture and deftly despite its size, this is a big wine that dances smoothly on the palate, while showing off its rich cherry, blueberry and sweet spice flavors. The parts melt together seamlessly as the finish rolls on and on.

**93 Points**

**Jim Barry Shiraz Clare Valley The Armagh 2004**

Bright and jazzy, with red pepper edge to the cherry, green olive and spice flavors. The harmonious flavors linger against very fine tannins and lively acidity on the long finish.

**92 Points**

**Mollydooker Shiraz South Australia Blue Eyed Boy 2006**

Rich and ripe, with a powerful blast of blackberry, licorice and smoky flavors rocketing through the long finish against highly polished tannins. Yet somehow this strikes a deft balance.

**92 Points**

**Heartland Shiraz South Australia Director's Cut 2005**

Velvety in texture, with bright, juicy plum and blackberry fruit up front, shaded with captivating nuances of mocha, tar and licorice. The finish rolls along without interference from the tannins.

**91 Points**

**De Lisio Shiraz McLaren Vale Krystina 2005**

Tight in texture, showing juicy blackberry flavors against lively acidity, with hints of mocha and spice as the finish lingers.

**90 Points**

**Giaconda Shiraz Victoria Warner Vineyard 2005**

Ripe and generous, with a lively zing of acidity to balance the generous blackberry and blueberry flavors, picking up some smoky notes on the long, generous finish.

**90 Points**

**Glaetzer Shiraz-Grenache Barossa Valley Wallace 2005**

Smooth and open-textured. A generous mouthful of blackberry and cherry flavors that hover beautifully in the airy atmosphere of the round finish.

**90 Points**

**Glen Eldon Shiraz Barossa Dry Bore 2004**

Firm in texture, this dense Shiraz shows a savory edge of meat and herb to the black fruit flavors, finishing with a licorice note. The tannins have some grip.

**90 Points**

**Mollydooker Two Left Feet South Australia 2006**

Smooth, vibrant and distinctive for its tarry blackberry and charred meat flavors, riding high on a sleek frame.

**90 Points**

**Henschke Henry's Seven Barossa 2005**

Lite and open-textured, with ripe raspberry and white chocolate flavors at the fore, followed by hints of peach pit as the finish sails on and on. Finishes a tad hot.

**89 Points**

**Jim Barry Shiraz Clare Valley The McRae Wood 2004**

Overtones of smoky black tea add an interesting fillip to the dark, ripe cherry flavors, picking up a eucalyptus note as the finish lingers smoothly.

**88 Points**

**Henschke Keyneton Estate Euphonium Barossa 2005**

Dark and juicy, this lean red shows ripe raspberry and plum flavors, with a halo of vanilla adding some presence on the finish.

**88 Points**

**Langmeil Three Gardens Barossa Valley 2005**

Smooth and round, with raspberry and plum most prominent, hinting at dusky spices as the lean finish plays out against firm tannins.

**88 Points**

**Two Hands Aphrodite Barossa Valley 2005**

Dense, ripe and plush, with savory sage and cilantro grace notes adding interest to the ripe cherry and prune flavors, picking up sweet spice character and the finish sails on smoothly. Tannins are present, but-well-submerged, and this persists impressively.

**93 Points**

**Mollydooker Cabernet Sauvignon South Australia Gigglepote 2006**

Soft, plush and round, with ripe cherry and currant flavors as the fore, hinting at cedar and chocolate as the finish persists impressively against very fine tannins.

**91 Points**

**Yalumba Grenache Barossa Valley Picked Tricentenary Vines 2005**

Lithe, open-textured and appealing for its ripe cherry and blackberry flavors, hinting guava as the finish lingers softly.

**90 Points**

**Mollydooker Cabernet Sauvignon South Australia The Maitre D' 2006**

Ripe and velvety. A supple mouthful of blackberry and currant flavors, hinting dark chocolate as the finish lingers. The tannins have some grip, and there's a bit of heat at the very end.

**89 Points**

**Mollydooker Merlot South Australia The Scooter 2006**

Firm in texture, with a solid core of dark berry and currant flavors, shaded with smoky, slightly tarry notes that mingle through the cocoa-scented finish.

**88 Points**

**Mollydooker Verdelho South Australia The Violinist 2007**

Broad and silky, offering a polished mouthful of almond-scented green apple and grass flavors, lingering well.

**87 Points**

**Josmeyer Pinot Gris Alsace Le Fromenteau 2005**

A ripe style, with peach and apricot flavors, backed by a firm structure. Full-bodied, with a good balance and a moderate finish.

**87 Points**

**Josmeyer Gewurztraminer Alsace Les Folastries 2005**

Rose and peony come to mind in the aroma on this white, which is rich on entry, then turns dry and slightly austere on the peppery finish. A twinge of heat pulls it slightly out of balance.

**88 Points**

**Chanson Pere & Fils Beaune White Clos des Mouches 2005**

A beauty. Lime blossom, apple peach and mineral aromas of flavors fixed by the vibrant acidity. Elegant and graceful, with intensity and a sense of terroir.

**92 Points**

**Etienne Sauzet Chassagne-Montrachet 2004**

A rich, anise-scented white, with creamy texture enveloping lemon, nectarine and peach notes. Harmonious, lingering nicely on the finish.

**90 Points**

**Etienne Sauzet Puligny-Montrachet Hameau de Blagny 2004**

Sleek and well-toned, this white offers lemon and mineral flavors backed by a mouthwatering profile. Has moderate intensity, followed by a clean, kinetic finish.

**89 Points**

**Bernard Morey Chassagne-Montrachet Les Baudines 2005**

Elegant, with hints of smoke, peach and melon flavors. Though rich, this is moderately concentrated, with a touch of heat on the butterscotch aftertaste.

**88 Points**

**Vincent Delaporte Sancerre Chavignol 2006**

Taut, but with nice weight to the flint, chive flower, grapefruit peel and mineral flavors. There's good zip on the finish.

**88 Points**

**M. Chapoutier Cote-Rotie La Mordoree 2004**

Racy and pure, with a nice solid beam of red currant and plum fruit layered with grilled herb, red licorice and mineral notes. Tight and hard on the finish now, this should flesh out nicely with some cellaring.

**91 Points**

**Alain Graillot Crozes-Hermitage La Guiraude 2005**

Structured and focused, with solid grip from start to finish that holds the plum sauce, graphite, herb and mineral notes at bay for now. The long, muscular finish shows dark fruit. Grilled sage and game notes.

**93 Points**

**Alain Graillot St.-Joseph 2005**

A lovely, traditional Syrah, with crushed berry fruit and lilting grilled herb and floral notes. Sanguine and tangy flavors ran through the fine-grained finish, with excellent length and focus.

**92 Points**

**Domaine Gerovassiliou Malagousia Epanomi 2006**

Vibrant and zesty, with plenty of stone fruit and citrus flavors and a abundance of fresh herbal notes. Spice and peach dominate the crisp finish.

**88 Points**

**Villa Russiz Chardonnay Collio Grafin de la Tour 2004**

Has very floral nose, showing violet, iris and mineral, with fresh apple and lemon meringue. Full and silky, with a refined mouthfeel and along finish. Subtle, ye beautifully balanced and enticing.

**90 Points**

**Jermann Chardonnay Venezia-Giulia 2005**

Very clean apple and piecrust aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied, with a tasty palate and finish. Young and fresh. Screw cap.

**87 Points**

**Jermann Pinot Bianco Venezia-Giulia 2005**

A tasty Pinot Bianco, with lemon, lychee and mineral on a silky, medium-bodied palate, with good fruit, fresh acidity and a rather dry mineral finish.

**86 Points**

**Cliff Lede Cabernet Sauvignon Stags Leap District 2004**

Plush and concentrated, yet elegant and stylish, with vivid black cherry, blackberry and black currant fruit that provides a tight, ripe focus. Picks up nice loamy earth and cedary oak character on the finish, where the flavors are pure and persistent.

**92 Points****Cliff Lede Claret Napa Valley 2004**

Ripe, pure aromas of black cherry and currant turn supple and polished, with a creamy oak note that offers hints of vanilla and herbs.

**88 Points****Miner Pinot Noir Santa Lucia Highlands Gary's Vineyard 2005**

Smooth, rich and creamy, with supple plum. Blackberry and blueberry fruit that's well-structured, with ripe but firm tannins that turn rich, earthy and complex.

**92 Points****Patz & Hall Pinot Noir Carneros Hyde Vineyard 2005**

Aromas of ripe cherry, wild berry and cola are fresh, vibrant and harmonious. Sleek, structured and well-focused, this is a long and elegant on the finish.

**91 Points****Patz & Hall Pinot Noir Santa Lucia Highlands Pisoni Vineyard 2005**

Starts out with ripe cherry. Cola and spice notes, then firms up midpalate, where the flavors are rich and polished, gaining depth and dimension. Ends with a long, rich aftertaste.

**91 Points****Siduri Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Cargasacchi Vineyard 2005**

Ripe, intense and well-focused, this is distinct for its plum, wild berry and cherry fruit and broad, expansive range of dark fruit flavors on the finish, ending with firm but ripe tannins.

**91 Points****Siduri Pinot Noir Sonoma Mountain Van der Kamp Vineyard 2005**

Sleek and elegant, with smoky herb, cherry, mineral, anise and sage notes joining ripe plum and currant notes. Complex and concentrated, this holds onto a tight focus, ending with a layered, fruity aftertaste.

**90 Points****Brewer-Clifton Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Mount Carmel 2005**

Very ripe yet balanced, with zesty wild berry, pomegranate and boysenberry flavors that pick up a nice dusty berry and mineral edge.

**89 Points****Siduri Pinot Noir Russian river Valley Keefer Ranch Vineyard 2005**

There's excellent balance between the ripe, spicy currant, blackberry, sage and cedary oak flavors, turning smooth and fleshy from midpalate on. Ends with a complex, lingering aftertaste that echoes mocha.

**89 Points**

**Breggo Pinot Noir Anderson Valley 2005**

Tight and firm, offering a mix of ripe berry, fresh earth and pebble, with a nice tannic backbone. The flavors fan out and offer depth, richness and length.

**88 Points**

**Breggo Pinot Noir Anderson Valley Savoy Vineyard 2005**

A rustic style that's rich and concentrated, with mineral, dried berry, nutmeg and hints of mocha and anise. Ends with chewy tannins.

**88 Points**

**Brewer-Clifton Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Melville 2005**

Rich and concentrated, with ripe, vivid blueberry and blackberry fruit that's also quite dry and tannic. The fruit holds the upper hand on the finish, yet the tannins never bow down. Ends with dusty berry and fresh earth aftertaste.

**88 Points**

**Brewer-Clifton Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Rancho Santa Rosa 2005**

Intense, vibrant and spicy, with fresh earth and dried berry fruit that's trim and focused, ending with spicy, peppery tannins.

**88 Points**

**Flowers Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast 2005**

Tight and focused, with ripe cherry and wild berry fruit that's tightly wound, firming up on the finish, where the tannins provide a nice structural foundation.

**88 Points**

**Patz & Hall Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast Burnside Vineyard 2005**

Smooth, rich and concentrated with a wide range of flavors that build slowly around a core of earthy berry, herb, sage, tea and tar.

**88 Points**

**Clos Pegase Pinot Noir Napa Valley Carneros Mitsuko's Vineyard 2005**

Fresh and vibrant, with rich, sappy, vibrant earth, wild berry and spice notes. The tannins are a bit raw, but not out of line.

**87 Points**

**Etude Pinot Noir Carneros Heirloom 2004**

Dusty berry, cedar, cola and sassafras flavors show an oaky edge, but this is complex, concentrated and firm from midpalate on. The tannins kick in on the finish.

**87 Points**

**Flowers Perennial Sonoma Coast 2005**

A ripe, fleshy style, with spice, earth, mineral and wild berry fruit that's supple and balanced. Ends with a spicy mineral edge.

**87 Points**

**Etude Pinot Noir Carneros 2005**

Austere, with firm tannins, ample oak and spicy tannins wrapped around a mix of cola, cherry and herb. Ends with scratchy tannins.

**86 Points**