

good living wine



BARGAIN OF THE WEEK

Kingston Estate Sauvignon Blanc, Adelaide Hills & Mt Benson 2010, \$14

Cheap sauvignon blanc is generally not a happy hunting ground but this one more than delivers. Crushed-leaf herbal aromas; very light-bodied palate, finishing clean and reasonably dry. It's a very good commercial sauvignon blanc. Drink young. 13.5 per cent alcohol. 87/100.

Food Composed salads.



TOP AUSSIE WHITE

Two Rivers Reserve Chardonnay, Hunter Valley 2009, \$24

I like the intensity and nerviness of this wine in the mouth. It has good acidity and is bright, taut and youthful, with room to grow. I can forgive the chopped-parsley aromas. It could be even better in a year. Drink now to 2015. 13.2 per cent alcohol. 90/100.

Food Sauteed scallops.



BEST IMPORT

Kendall Jackson Vintner's Reserve Pinot Noir, California 2009, \$27

Deep colour of youthful hue and bright, fresh aromas of black and red cherry, lush in the mouth with opulence and vitality. Bags of sweetly ripe fruit and charming – if just a touch straightforward. Try Dan Murphy's. Drink now to 2016. 13.5 per cent alcohol. 92/100.

Food Grilled lamb chops.



INDULGE YOURSELF

Caillard Mataro, Barossa Valley 2009, \$45

A beautifully elegant red with lots of character and charm. Meaty, earthy, slightly funky aromas become finely perfumed with airing. Deep, layered and lingering on the palate, with well-modulated savoury flavours and powdery tannins.

Now to 2020. 13.6 per cent alcohol. 95/100.

Food Asiago cheese.



BEST ROSÉ

Greenstone Monastrell Rose, Heathcote 2009, \$25

Monastrell is Spanish for mourvedre (or mataro). In the hands of the Greenstone team it is a pale-coloured, mellow, developed rosé of savoury complexity and a clean, properly dry finish. It's the antithesis of fruity. 14 per cent alcohol. 93/100.

Food Antipasto.



TOP AUSSIE RED

Ocean Eight Pinot Noir, Mornington Peninsula 2009, \$40

Delicious pinot, medium-full red with purple tints and smelling funky and sappy, with some whiffs of fresh-earth, cherry and oak. Good weight and fleshy texture, with amplitude from glycerol and soft tannins. I liked it more than the dearer '08 Aylward bottling.

Now to 2018. 13.5 per cent alcohol. 92/100.

Food Roast squab.

