



June 30, 2010

COLDSTREAM HILLS

By Lisa Perrotti-Brown from the Wine Advocate

Years ago during my first visit to the Yarra Valley, I made a pilgrimage to visit the incredible location of Coldstream's Amphitheatre Vineyard. I was not disappointed – for fans of Yarra Valley wines this vista in the heart of the valley is a living monument of its beauty and potential.

During my most recent visit I was pleased to see the new owners, Fosters, are giving the adjacent winery on the hill a much needed overhaul. Meanwhile winemaker Andrew Fleming has been giving the wines a few modern tweaks under the tutelage of still resident founder James Halliday, and the quality is making something of a comeback.

2006 Coldstream Hills Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

A Cabernet Sauvignon Dry Red Table wine from Yarra Valley, Victoria, Australia.

The 2006 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon has a very deep garnet purple color and provocatively intense aromas of warm cassis, blackberry, minty chocolate and cloves with some pencil shavings. Medium-full-bodied, the moderate richness is offset by crisp acidity and a medium-firm level of fine tannins. The finish is long. Still a little tight, this wine should improve with 1 to 2 years of cellaring and keep to 2022+.

Review by WA # , #189 (Jun 2010) Drink 2011 – 2022

Rating: 92

2006 Coldstream Hills Chardonnay Reserve

A Chardonnay Dry White Table wine from Victoria, Australia,

The 2006 Reserve Chardonnay provides just a tad more intensity and concentration. Scented of intense pineapple, green guava and passion fruit, the palate is crisp with a wonderful silken texture and a long toasty texture. While beautiful now, this Chardonnay should evolve over 3 to 5 years and keep through 2017+.

Review by WA # , #189 (Jun 2010) Drink 2010 – 2017

Rating: 92

2007 Coldstream Hills Chardonnay Reserve

A Chardonnay Dry White Table wine from Victoria, Australia

Barrel fermented in 50-60% new oak and without any malo-lactic influence, the 2007 Reserve Chardonnay possesses lovely citrus peel and ginger aromas with a touch of the tropics and a suggestion of smoky oak. With a medium body and medium acidity, it gives a long zesty finish with some minerals. Drink now or enjoy over the next 5 to 7 years.

Review by WA # , #189 (Jun 2010) Drink 2010 - 2017

Rating: 91

2006 Coldstream Hills Chardonnay

A Chardonnay Dry White Table wine from Yarra Valley, Victoria, Australia,

The 2006 Chardonnay has pretty, barely evolving aromas of lemon curd, toast and some buttered oatmeal. Crisp, clean, medium-bodied with a slightly silken texture, the wine finishes long imparting a bit of minerality. It's drinking well now, though it still has a good 5 years to go.

**Review by WA # , #189 (Jun 2010) Drink -
Rating: 90**

2006 Coldstream Hills Amphitheatre Pinot Noir

A Pinot Noir Dry Red Table wine from Yarra Valley, Victoria, Australia,

The 2006 Amphitheatre Pinot Noir is the first release of the unblended fruit of this special vineyard. Medium ruby in color, two thirds of the wine was matured in new oak and the fruit seems to have soaked it up with barely a trace detectable amongst the dark cherry, smoked game, earth and iron ore notes. The palate has a very good concentration of youthful berry fruit with a medium level of fine tannins and high acidity to lend support. It finishes long with a satisfying savory character. Approachable now it should develop over 4 to 6 years and drink to 2019. Only 68 cases made.

**Review by WA # , #189 (Jun 2010) Drink 2010 – 2019
Rating: 92**

2006 Coldstream Hills Sparkling Chardonnay Pinot Noir

A Proprietary Blend Dry White Sparkling wine from Yarra Valley, Victoria, Australia,

Produced of cooler climate, Upper Yarra Valley fruit coming off the south facing Deer Farm Vineyard, the 2006 Sparkling Chardonnay Pinot Noir is made using the transfer method. Its composition is 60% Chardonnay and 40% Pinot Noir spending 25 months on lees. With intense citrus and fresh bread aromas plus a whiff of chalky earth and mushroom, this well made sparkler has crisp acidity, fine bubbles and a nice touch of honeycomb coming through in the long finish. To drink now, this wine should keep 4-5 years in bottle. Just 1200 cases made.

**Review by WA # , #189 (Jun 2010)
Rating: 90**

2006 Coldstream Hills Reserve Shiraz

A Syrah Dry Red Table wine from Yarra Valley, Victoria, Australia,

Co-fermented with about 0.05% Viognier, the 2006 Reserve Shiraz reveals a deep garnet-purple color and lifted aromas of crushed blackberries, tar, licorice and a whiff of coffee grounds. Full-bodied with medium to high acidity and a medium level of velvety tannins, the finish is long and fruity. A good glass now, this Shiraz should drink through 2017.

**Review by WA # , #189 (Jun 2010) Drink 2010 - 2017
Rating: 90**