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releases tasted
and rated



the **penguin** good australian

WINE GUIDE

2007

Ralph Kyte-Powell and Huon Hooke

Quality	Rating	
🍷🍷🍷🍷🍷	95–100	The acme of style: a fabulous, faultless wine that Australia should be proud of.
🍷🍷🍷🍷	92–94	A marvellous wine that is so close to the top it almost doesn't matter.
🍷🍷🍷	90–92	An exciting wine that has plenty of style and dash. You should be proud to serve this.
🍷🍷🍷	88–90	Solid quality with a modicum of style; good drinking.
🍷🍷	86–88	Decent, drinkable wine good for everyday quaffing. You can happily serve this to family and friends.
🍷🍷	84–86	Sound, respectable wines, but the earth won't move.
🍷	82–84	Just okay but, in quality terms, starting to look a little wobbly.

(Lower scores are not usually included.)

Value

*****	You should feel guilty for paying so little: this is great value for money.
*****)	Don't tell too many people because the wine will start selling and the maker will put the price up.
*****	If you complain about paying this much for a wine, you've got a death adder in your pocket.
****)	Still excellent wine, but the maker is also making money.
***	Fair is fair, this is a win-win exchange for buyer and maker.
***)	They are starting to see you coming, but it's not a total rip-off.
**	This wine will appeal to label drinkers and those who want to impress their bank manager.
*)	You know what they say about fools and their money . . .
*	Makes the used-car industry look saintly.

Grapes

Grape varieties are listed in order of dominance; percentages are cited when available.

Region

Where the source of the grapes is known, the region is stated. If there is more than one region, they are listed in order of dominance. Many large commercial blends have so many source regions that they are not stated.

Cannibal Creek Chardonnay

Cannibal Creek is a quiet little corner of Gippsland viticulture making wines of subtle complexity. Chardonnay is a speciality. Maker: Pat Hardiker.

CURRENT RELEASE 2003 A complex type of chardonnay that balances winemaking craft with good chardonnay fruit very well. It has melon, peach and cashew aromas touched by creamy lees influence and a hint of burnt match.

Smooth in the mouth, it retains intensity and real richness of flavour without sacrificing freshness and zip. Try it with bug tails, or lobster if you're cashed up.

Quality	
Value	★★★★★
Rating	94
Grapes	chardonnay
Region	Gippsland, Vic.
Cellar	 2
Alc./Vol.	14.0%
RRP	\$24.00

Centennial Vineyards Reserve Chardonnay

This ambitious vineyard, winery and restaurant/cellar door complex was built by John Large, who has quite a background in the wine trade. He was one of the founders of Liquorland and, later, the wine club Cellarmasters.

CURRENT RELEASE 2004 This is a very smart chardonnay, even the colour is eye-catching: a bright, light-yellow hue with green glints. It's clean and fresh with aromas of stone fruits and citrus, fruit to the fore and deftly handled oak in the background. There's a suspicion of sweetness on palate, but it has good fruit, style and balance. It would suit buttery grilled scallops on the half-shell.

Quality	
Value	★★★★★
Rating	90
Grapes	chardonnay
Region	Orange, NSW
Cellar	 3+
Alc./Vol.	14.0%
RRP	\$27.00  (cellar door)

Centennial Vineyards Woodside Single Vineyard Chardonnay

Woodside is the brand for the chardonnay grown in Centennial's own vineyard at Bowral. It's a cool and fairly wet climate, so if some botrytis creeps into the wine some years, it's not unexpected.

CURRENT RELEASE 2004 Botrytis character adds to and modifies the chardonnay varietal personality of this wine. It adds an almost sauternes-like honey/apricot or pineapple aspect, while the palate is sweet-tasting, soft and round – a nice drink but not classic chardonnay in structure. You could team it up with chicken cooked with apricots.

Quality	
Value	★★★
Rating	86
Grapes	chardonnay
Region	Southern Highlands, NSW
Cellar	 2
Alc./Vol.	14.0%
RRP	\$23.00  (cellar door)