



Two Hands Wines

By Josh Reynolds

TWO HANDS WINES
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2009 Two Hands Wines Moscato Brilliant Disguise Barossa Valley (500 ml)

(\$19) Light straw. Nectarine, orange, peach and candied ginger aromas are less exotic and floral, and more mineral, than most moscatos. Smooth and lightly spicy, with a gentle sweetness and good clarity to the ginger, pear and tangerine flavors. Finishes with a lingering hint of sweet melon. **90**

2008 Two Hands Wines Riesling The Wolf Clare Valley

(\$30) Pale gold. Lime, white peach, spices and minerals on the energetic nose. Taut, focused and pure, with citrus flavors given clarity by good mineral cut. Finishes with a bit of refreshing citrus zest and pith and very good length. **90**

2008 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Gnarly Dudes Barossa Valley

(\$35) Glass-staining ruby. Crushed blackberry, blueberry, spicecake and licorice on the slightly medicinal nose. Dense, juicy and sweet, with impressively fresh black raspberry and cherry-cola flavor. Finishes very long, with silky tannins and impressive mineral snap. **91**

2007 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Gnarly Dudes Barossa Valley

(\$35) Inky ruby. Intensely perfumed bouquet of dark berries, candied cherry and smoky Indian spices. Broad, fleshy red and dark berry flavors are impressively deep and subtly sweet, with notes of licorice and bitter chocolate adding complexity. Smooth and seemingly tannin-free on the persistent, sappy finish. **91**

2008 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Angels Share McLaren Vale

(\$35) Deep ruby. Ripe, smoky aromas of blackberry and cherry pie, with complicating notes of licorice and dark chocolate. Broad and jammy, offering sweet dark berry flavors and a slow-building cocoa quality. Finishes supple and sweet, with a repeating licorice note and zesty mineral and spice qualities. **90**

2007 Two Hands Wines Shiraz/Cabernet Sauvignon The Bull and Bear Barossa Valley

(\$48; a 67/33 blend) Good deep ruby. Brooding aromas of plum, cherry-vanilla and brown spices. Liqueur-like dark fruit flavors are complicated by notes of clove and cola, with velvety tannins adding support. A fat, lush, rich wine with a fairly soft texture, sweet tannins and excellent spicy persistence. **91**

2007 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Bad Impersonator Barossa Valley

(\$48) Deep, inky purple. Highly spicy aromas of cassis, blueberry, violet, cracked pepper and olive. Lush, creamy and gently sweet, offering potent dark berry preserve flavors and strong spice and floral elements. Finishes with palate-numbing spiciness and lingering pepper and licorice notes. For such a powerful wine this is really energetic. **92**

2007 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Max's Garden Heathcote

(\$60) Inky purple. Spicy black cherry, blackcurrant, tar, licorice and potpourri on the nose, all lifted by a mineral topnote. Big and rich but juicy, offering gently sweet dark berry flavors and notes of candied violet and spicecake. Impressively broad and focused, with good extract and building notes of tangy berry skin and herbs. Finishes with gentle tannins and refreshing energy. **92**

2007 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Samantha's Garden Clare Valley

(\$60) Vivid ruby. Reticent but complex nose displays primary red and dark berry aromas along with rhubarb, licorice and Asian spices. Quite bright and spicy in the mouth, with flavors of red and blackcurrant, blackberry and bitter cherry. Finishes with excellent finishing clarity, lift and lingering spiciness. **92**

2007 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Harry & Edward's Garden Langhorne Creek

(\$60) Inky purple. Brooding boysenberry, plum, Indian spices and vanillin oak on the nose, complicated by suggestions of violet and black pepper. Suave and fleshy on entry, then perfumed but youthfully tight in the middle, offering sweet notes of dark fruit preserves, olive and spicy oak. Finishes with noteworthy sweetness, but this gripping wine is extremely young and slow to unfold. **92(+)**

2007 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Lily's Garden McLaren Vale

(\$60) Saturated ruby. Intensely floral, high-pitched aromas of black raspberry, mulberry, violet and rose, lifted by a pungent peppery quality. Spicy dark berry flavors gain flesh and sweetness with air, picking up a smoky mineral quality and a note of candied violet. Finishes juicy and very long, with berry skin and floral notes. **92**

2007 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Bella's Garden Barossa

(\$60) Bright purple. Explosively perfumed bouquet of raspberry, blueberry, spicecake, potpourri and anise, with a subtle mocha undertone. More serious on the palate, where chewy cherry-cola and licorice qualities are complicated by notes of violet pastille and black cardamom. Large-scaled, fat and spicy, with strong finishing grip and supple tannins. **93**

2007 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Sophie's Garden Padihaway

(\$60) Glass-staining ruby. Liqueur-like aromas of red and dark berries, licorice and fruitcake. Brighter in the mouth, offering sweet raspberry and cherry flavors and exotic spice and floral pastille qualities. Very well-balanced and pure, with strong finishing cut, clarity and freshness. **93**

2007 Two Hands Wines Grenache Aerope Barossa Valley

(\$150; includes 5% mataro) Medium red. Multidimensional nose offers red berries, lavender, rose, spicecake and a pungent herbal note. Pure, focused and sweet, with suave, perfumed raspberry and blackberry flavors, fully integrated tannins and a strong kick of Asian spices. Expands nicely on the lengthy finish, with the red berry and spice notes repeating. **93**

2008 Two Hands Wines Mataro Anteros Barossa Valley

(\$150) Opaque purple. Youthfully brooding, musky nose displays blackcurrant, smoky minerals, licorice and mocha. Deeply concentrated, sweet and lush, offering powerful dark berry and bitter cherry flavors and notes of black tea and tobacco. Sweeter boysenberry and blueberry notes gain strength with air and carry through a very long, juicy and focused finish. This was scheduled to be bottled this fall. **92-94**

2007 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Barney's Block McMurtrie Road McLaren Vale

(\$120) Glass-staining ruby. Intensely perfumed bouquet of red- and blackcurrant, cherry-cola, tobacco, licorice and cocoa powder. Fleshy, palate-staining dark berry flavors are enlivened by juicy acidity and framed by velvety tannins. Turns sweeter on the finish, which features plush blueberry and floral pastille qualities and a strong kick of smoky Indian spices. **93**

2007 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Zippy's Block Barossa Valley

(\$120) Bright purple. Complex, pungent aromas of raspberry, blackberry, potpourri and incense, with a suave mineral note adding vibrancy. Sweet, minerally and densely packed, with terrific sappy vivacity to the flavors of raspberry and cherry preserves and minerals. With air, the spiciness gained strength and sexy floral notes emerged. Finishes with impressive breadth, fully ripe, gentle tannins and superb length. **94**

2007 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Coach House Block Greenock Barossa Valley

(\$120) Inky purple color. Deep, assertive aromas of cassis, black raspberry, mocha and licorice, with a suggestion of fruitcake. Palate-saturating dark fruit flavors are firmed by a tangy mineral note and become spicier with aeration. Distinctly rich and large-scaled yet well focused, with impressive finishing lift and mounting minerality. **93**

2007 Two Hands Wines Cabernet Sauvignon Coach House Block Barossa Valley

(\$120) Deep ruby. Fresh red- and blackcurrant aromas are complicated by notes of pipe tobacco, potpourri, cola and vanilla bean. Spicy, sharply focused red and dark berry flavors saturate the palate, gaining sweetness and depth with air. Herbal and floral qualities come on strong on the long, sappy finish, where the dark berry notes echo strongly. Give this some air, or another five years in the cellar. **93(+)**

2007 Two Hands Wines Cabernet Sauvignon Aphrodite Barossa Valley

(\$225) Glass-staining ruby. Pungent, intensely spicy bouquet displays blackcurrant, cherry-cola, cherry skin, tobacco, smoky minerals and dried rose. Surprisingly energetic and fresh on the palate, with a subtle mintiness to the sweet, almost crystallized red and dark berry and bitter cherry flavors. Taut and energetic on the sharply focused finish, leaving a complex trail of fresh red fruits and flowers behind. **94**

2007 Two Hands Wines Shiraz Ares Barossa Valley

(\$225) Opaque purple. Explosive, seductively perfumed bouquet evokes boysenberry, blueberry, sandalwood, potpourri, licorice and Asian spices. Wonderfully juicy and lively on the palate, with candied flowers and smoky minerality framing and lifting the dark fruit liqueur flavors. Becomes fresher with air, finishing on energetic notes of raspberry and violet pastille. This refuses to let go of the palate. **94**

2008 Two Hands Wines Cane Cut Semillon For Love Or Money Barossa Valley (500 ml)

(\$62; for 500 ml) Bright yellow-gold. Musky, very fresh aromas of crystallized citrus peel, pungent herbs and black tea. The palate offers sappy, concentrated orange and pear skin flavors and a salty aspect, with a strong herbal undertone. Finishes with a tactile impression of extract, supple texture and a faintly syrupy note. This will be superb with blue cheeses. **91**

NV Two Hands Wines Muscat Blend No. 1 A Day Late, A Buck Short Barossa Valley

(\$48) Reddish-amber. Explosively fruity aromas of toffee apple, apricot pit, singed orange, smoke and clove, plus a gentle note of cinnamon. Thick, chewy and powerful, with round chestnut honey, pit fruit and spice flavors and a strong orange quality. Builds impressively toward the back, finishing with strong sweetness and lingering toffee and orange notes. I'd serve this by itself, or with something simple, like pecan pie. **92**

The Lucky Country Wines

2007 The Lucky Country Shiraz South Australia

(\$15) Bright purple. Attractive aromas of dark berry preserves and brown spices, with a subtle peppery note adding energy. Pliant, gently sweet blackberry and boysenberry flavors offer good, straightforward appeal. The floral note repeats on the finish, which is clean, brisk and nicely persistent. This wine, which is made by Two Hands, comes from a blend of fruit from the Barossa Valley and McLaren Vale. **88**