

Philip White



**Elderton
Tantalus Shiraz
Cabernet 2003**

87 points
14 per cent
alcohol, screw cap
\$14

As the retail world contracts and prices plummet, smaller producers are forced to turn their hand to cheaper stuff like this dry-shiraz blend, which tastes a little Balthazar – it's chocolatey, but not a lot. It's slippery, gets multi-week surping of a dangerous type, nothing overt. It would be good couched with spicy stuff, like Thai.

Outlets: www.eldertonwines.com.au



**Remarkable
View Cabernet
Sauvignon 2003**

89 points
13.8 per cent
alcohol, screw cap
\$20

The new wines of the Southern Flinders Ranges are quirky, proving this region has a lot going for it. This Murray Tower cabernet is showing more dusty oak than I prefer, but that's still fashionable. It's juicy, unpreferable, only dried that you can knock away all afternoon. Price talk of cents.

Outlets: 0428 617222



**David Franz
Barossa Red
Rosé 2004**

92 points
12.8 per cent
alcohol, screw cap
\$22

David Franz Lehmann makes this rosy wickedness from 80-year-old dry-grown shiraz, fronti, grenache, mataro, pedro "and a few other varieties". It's wicked and slick, oozing turkish delight and showing a little of that sweet's naughty gelatinous nature. But it's not sweet – just naughty.

Outlets: 0419 807 468.



**Tim Smith
Wines Grenache
Mataro Shiraz
2003**

90 points
14.5 per cent
alcohol, screw cap
\$26

This feels scrappy and juicy, but it seems more alcohol than it purports to be. It's all old-time stuff, intense, scrappy, slightly stewed, and with an illusion of sweetness. More than, there is not a splinter of inter-gener oak. Try it, remarkably good, with carbon pork or any. Outlets: www.timsmithwines.com.au