

WINES TO WATCH



TEXT CAMPBELL MATTINSON

Extra Dimensions

Reds of ultra complexity and depth are making their mark. Don't be swayed by their price tags; the cheapest can be up there with the most expensive.

TORBRECK

Torbreck founder Dave Powell has a phenomenal hit rate. When he decides to produce a new super-premium red wine, chances are it'll not only be super good, but the initial reservations over its high price will quickly be overcome. Enter the newest wine in the Torbreck range, made from 100 per cent Eden Valley shiraz grapes. It's called 2005 Torbreck The Gask (A\$75), and there's more to it than might initially meet the eye.

Undoubtedly, this is a beautiful wine. Powell, one of the Barossa Valley's brightest stars, knows all about the making of rich, dark, velvety red wine. And while this wine fits that description, it's not quite as rich and

dark as some Eden Valley shiraz in the same price bracket. This is where the extra dimension comes in. What this wine lacks in raw power it makes up for in complexity, with delicious notes of smoke, coffee, graphite and spice curling up out of the glass. Pour it into a big glass, take your time, and get ready to be slowly but totally enchanted. It also has a milk chocolate softness to it. Delicious.

If \$75 is too steep, the 2005 Torbreck The Struie (A\$48/NZ\$63) is yet another ripping release, and every bit as enjoyable. Here you get the full power play: syrupy, dark, plummy fruit, sweet berry fragrance, silken texture and oodles of flavour to wrap your tongue around. I opened a bottle a few weeks ago

and it was gone before I'd written any notes on it. I had to open another bottle the next night and I loved it all over again.

