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Decanter

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THE WORLD'S 50 BEST VALUE REDS

ARGENTINA Catena, Malbec

This delivers everything a good Malbec should: dense black cherry, sweet and mouthfilling fruit, round tannins and a rich, warm finish. (BB) £12; Maj, Tes

Norton, Malbec Reserve

Great Argentinian Malbec seems to me to offer the best red-wine value in the southern hemisphere. Norton's Reserve is consistently satisfying, balanced and deep. (AJ) £8.99 approx (2003); Evy, ScC, Wai

Norton, Privada

This blend of Malbec, Merlot and Cabernet is a meaty, smoky, smooth and richly satisfying wine – typically Argentinian, but with freshness and a long, complex finish. Lots of wine for the money. (BB) £9.99 (2003); Wai

Terrazas, Malbec Reserva

The Malbec Reserva from Terrazas is made by one of Mendoza's top winemakers, Roberto de la Mota, from very old vines giving tremendous concentration. Brilliant value. (SB) £9.99 (2003); Eag, Evy, Sel, Tes, VtH, Wmb

AUSTRALIA

D'Arenberg, The Footbolt Shiraz, McLaren Vale



slightly raisiny fruit. Always completely satisfying. (SS) £9.50 (2003); Wai

Penfolds, Bin 28, Kalimna Shiraz, Barossa Valley

Ancient, heroic and the source of many revered reds, the Kalimna vineyard is very special indeed, and it is a privilege to drink this wine. I am amazed it is still only a tenner. (MJ) £10.64 (2003); Evy

Penfolds, Bin 389 Cabernet-Shiraz

Penfolds' classic Australian blend, combining sweet black fruit drinkability with cellaring potential, this regularly overdelivers on value. (AR) £14-15 (2002); Evy, F&R, WSo

St Hallett, Blackwell Shiraz, Barossa Valley

Classic Barossa Valley Shiraz crafted from old vines at Seppeltsfield, Ebenezer and Koonunga Hill with American oak adding spice and sheen to the seamless blackberry fruit. (AR) £13 approx (2002); Bib, Evy, Wbc

St Hallett, Gamekeepers Reserve, Barossa Valley

Mourvèdre. It is on the one hand a cheery glugger and on the other a complex and fascinating Aussie red. (MJ) £5.99 (2004); Bib, Odd

Tim Adams, The Fergus, Clare Valley

Surely this is one of the most underrated red wines in Australia. Grenache is still regarded as a second-class citizen (to Shiraz), and yet the aroma and texture in this wine are truly heavenly. (MJ) £9.95 (2004); OzW, Tes

Wynn's, Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon

Value and icon status rarely go together, but a recent 50-year retrospective showed just how consistent this Coonawarra classic has been over time. It is maintaining that hard-earned reputation both for quality and value. (AR)

If there has ever been a mediocre vintage of Wynn's Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon, I have yet to encounter it. Deep in flavour as well as colour, this rich

