

Divine Wine Online - 1 August 2006

Selected Wine

2003 Sugarloaf Creek Shiraz (cork) \$29

One of the dangers of organising tastings all over the place is that every wannabe winemaker with a few vines in the ground wants you to try their labour of love. And every now and then you taste one that restores your faith in weekend winemaking.



Sugarloaf Creek is located at Broadford which is smack in the middle of the Great Dividing Range about a hundred kilometres north of Melbourne. The vineyard is planted entirely to shiraz vines, which are dry grown. The wine is made by Heathcote winemaker Adrian Munari.

Whacks you over the head with white pepper notes, squishy blueberry, freshly sawn oak and a twist of herb and lemon rind. Really racy on the palate, the zingy acidity can't sit still for a minute and drives the wine on to a grippy, dry finish. Acidity like this does not come from a bag or from grapes grown in warm climes, so there's no mistaking its cool-climate origins. Linear tannins frame the sweet, juicy fruit and the whole package is harmonious and easy to drink. Stylish and food friendly. www.sugarloafcreek.com

Andrew Wood - 1 August 2006