

While we may like to think our market is independent, several of our trends have followed similar ones in the US.

2008 Maverick Trial Hill (A\$30) was seen in different ways by the panel. Otton said, "Very classical and varietal, in a restrained way. White flower and citrus aromas. Juicy, with fresh acidity." Caillard and I thought it fuller – "a dry spätlese style," he said, while I found rich, ripe tropical flavours. The wine is fully ready now and will gain complexity with another couple of years in bottle.

Eden Valley

Eden Valley's wines are often quite reserved in their first couple of years, unlike the Clare's, for instance. Nevertheless, the unusual 2009 and 2008 vintages have thrown up many wines with lovely, appealing flavours, although they still show their typically great potential to age beautifully in the long term. The best will be capable of 20 years. We thought these two vintages had blurred the familiar style definition between the Clare and Eden Valley rieslings. The Clares often show predominantly citrus characters, while the Edens are typically more floral with a tighter, more acid structure. We found less conformity but nevermind. The wines are still excellent.