

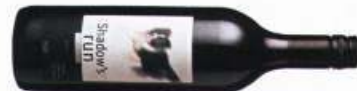


## LIFE AFTER SPORT!

# 15 REDS UNDER \$15

### A quality drop for the price of plonk

**Q**PR. No, I'm not talking about Queens Park Rangers – it's the acronym wine reps use when talking about wine value. It stands for the Quality Price Rapport. In other words, the higher the wine's quality and the lower its price the more you're going to like it. QPR is often associated with a bottom-end price point, too. In recent times it was \$10. Now it's \$15. Yes, you've got to go to about \$15 before you can start tasting the difference between plonk and good wine. This month we've turned *Alpha's* wine lab into a hunting ground for these good QPR reds, and we've even found some under \$10. All of these wines also enjoy wide distribution through the larger liquor chains. – *Ben Canaider*



**Shadow's Run Shiraz Cabernet Sauvignon 2007**  
 The label might look a bit hairdresserish, but the wine is a great example of a classic red blend – shiraz and cab sav. \$12



**Trentham Estate Pinot Noir 2008**  
 Like most of the wines in our top 15, it is reliable right through the range. And drinkable pinot at this price is remarkable. \$14



**Angoves Long Row Cabernet Sauvignon 2007**  
 Below \$10 can be tricky, but it actually tastes like cabernet should: nice blackberry, nice tannin and nice length. \$9



**De Bortoli Sacred Hill Shiraz Cabernet 2008**  
 I've put a lot of people onto this bargain wine, and they've all proceeded to live on the stuff. \$7



**Yalumba Y Series Shiraz Viognier 2007**  
 Great QPR, with the wine being good enough to sell for \$20. The viognier is a white grape that adds great aromas. \$13



**St Hallett Gamekeepers Reserve 2007**  
 An unmissable South Australian blend that's been a good default-position red for more than a decade. \$14



**Zilzie Bulloak Shiraz 2007**  
 Zilzie's easy to remember because it starts with the letter 'Z'. This is honest red without any offence. \$10



**D'Arenberg The Stump Jump Grenache Shiraz Mourvedre 2007**  
 Grenache, shiraz and mourvedre blends pay homage to France's Rhone Valley. This one from McLaren Vale has heaps of earthiness and generosity. \$11



**Kingston Estate Shiraz 2007**  
 Vast vine acreage and good scales of economy enable Kingston Estate to produce this meaty shiraz with plenty of oomph. \$13



**Woop Woop Shiraz 2007**  
 Catchy name, but the gutsy wine has a terrific pedigree and is made by one of SA's best winemakers, Ben Riggs. \$12



**Angoves Butterfly Ridge Merlot Cabernet 2007**  
 It is a fight between this wine and the De Bortoli Sacred Hill reds for the title of best value red in Australia. \$6



**Vintage Cellars Chalkboard Cotes-du-Rhone 2007**  
 A French import more on the savoury fruit side than the sweet; apply it to your posh relatives, if you've got any. \$10



**De Bortoli Sacred Hill Cabernet Merlot 2007**  
 Lighter and fruitier than the Sacred Hill shiraz/cabernet, so use this one at lunch and the other one at dinner. \$7



**Taylors Eighty Acres 2006 Shiraz Viognier**  
 At the upper end of our limit, but you get a lot of wine for the price. It's got good depth and the wine fights back, too. \$15



**Riparosso Montepulciano d'Abruzzo 2008**  
 Dan Murphy's Italian bargain, with lots of savoury and cherry-pip flavours. It is a dry red wine for grown-ups. \$11