

Toasting the world's best drop of shiraz



TASTE OF THE BEST

Kellermeister 2008 Wild Witch Shiraz

This wine is one of the great ambassadors for Barossa's big-gun shiraz style with its vibrant purple colour, its deep-set aromas and brazen black-berried fruit flavours that have been teased fully from seriously old, dry-grown and low yielding vines. Add a backdrop of fine French oak, weather its obvious 15 per cent alcohol content, and ponder its long, deliberate finish, and the total package sings of luxury and decadence. In global terms, its \$70 retail tag seems like a bargain when many other high profile wines, from here and France, can reach 10 times the price.

- Tony Love



TONY LOVE NATIONAL WINE EDITOR

A SMALL family-run Barossa winery has soared to international fame after its flagship shiraz was named last night as the best in the world.

Lyndoch-based

Kellermeister Wines' Wild Witch Shiraz yesterday collected three trophies at the International Wine Challenge in London - the world's largest wine competition.

The wine, which sells for \$70, was judged over three categories, topping the

best Barossa and best Australian shiraz sections before being judged the best international shiraz, beating hundreds of other entries from other Australian regions as well as France's finest.

The win confirms the Barossa Valley's repu-

tation as one of the world's great shiraz-growing regions, and was an even sweeter victory for its winemakers given the IWC is considered "The Oscars" of the wine world.

More than 12,000 wines overall from every important wine-producing region

were submitted for the competition with 400 judges used to assess all the wines in anonymous "blind" tastings.

"This win is incredibly exciting for Kellermeister and our winemaking team," winery boss Mark Pearce said from the

competition's prize-winning tastings at Lord's cricket ground.

"But it's also a wonderful win for Barossa shiraz. The result demonstrates what we do best - we make shiraz in a traditional style faithful to the strengths of the Barossa."