

# THE RHONE REPORT – ISSUE 8

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## MOLLYDOOKER

Website: [www.mollydookerwines.com.au](http://www.mollydookerwines.com.au)

Importer: Mollydooker International, Calistoga CA

<b>2010 Mollydooker Verdelho The Violinist</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2009 Mollydooker Cabernet Sauvignon The Maitre D'</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2009 Mollydooker Merlot The Scooter</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>90?</b>
<b>2009 Mollydooker Two Left Feet</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>2009 Mollydooker Shiraz The Boxer</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>92+</b>
<b>2008 Mollydooker Sip It Forward</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>2009 Mollydooker Cabernet Sauvignon Giggopot</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2009 Mollydooker Shiraz Blue Eyed Boy</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>2009 Mollydooker Shiraz Carnival of Love</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>2009 Mollydooker Enchanted Path</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>2009 Mollydooker Shiraz Velvet Glove</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>97</b>

### **2010 Mollydooker Verdelho The Violinist** (*Australia, South Australia, Fleurieu, McLaren Vale*) **\$25**

The barrel fermented 2010 Mollydooker Verdelho The Violinist delivers a full flavored, rich profile that's balanced beautifully by crisp acids and overall fresh, clean feel. Showing juicy green apple, wet stone, and spice characteristics on the nose, the wine is on the heavier side of medium bodied with a textured, clean palate, good acids, sweet fruit, and a long finish. Straight up delicious and very easy drinking, serve this chilled over the coming year or so. **(89 pts.)**

### **2009 Mollydooker Cabernet Sauvignon The Maitre D'** (*Australia, South Australia, Fleurieu, Langhorne Creek*) **\$25**

Showing real Cabernet character, the 2009 Mollydooker Cabernet Sauvignon The Maitre D' was aged in 77% American and 33% French oak, with roughly half being new. The wine has deep cassis, lead pencil, mint, and tobacco characteristics, with subtle chocolate and spice coming through with additional airtime. Quite perfumed and fragrant aromatically, the wine is full bodied on the palate with a fresh, vibrant personality, serious texture, good acidity, loads of ripe fruit, and heady, long, and chocolate-laced finish. While I wouldn't be surprised to see this drinking reasonably well at age 8 or beyond, I still think it will be best in its first 3-5 years. **(90 pts.)**

### **2009 Mollydooker Merlot The Scooter** (*Australia, South Australia, Fleurieu, McLaren Vale*) **\$25**

A big wine, the 2009 Mollydooker Merlot The Scooter is all Merlot that was aged in mainly American oak, with 1/3 being new. Not giving up much on the nose except dark, dense fruit and spice, the wine finally yields deep plum and blackberry fruit, licorice, asphalt, tobacco, and smoked meat aromas later in the evening. Full bodied and admirably textured, it hits the palate with a swath of fruit and texture that saturates the mouth, showing a seamless, albeit, very heady profile, good acidity, and a blockbuster finish. Almost port like in its headiness and sheer exuberance, this is balanced, textured, and fun to drink, but easily the most heady, borderline alcoholic wine in the lineup. Those sensitive to higher alcohol wines should look elsewhere, but this will certainly put a smile on the face of regular Mollydooker fans. I've no idea how it will age, but would drink bottles over the coming 1-3 years. **(90? Pts.)**

### **2009 Mollydooker Two Left Feet** (*Australia, South Australia, Fleurieu, McLaren Vale*) **\$25**

Plush and suave, with loads of decadent and hedonistic fruit, the 2009 Mollydooker Two Left Feet is a mouthful of a wine that yields serious plum, cassis, smoked beef, licorice, tobacco, and asphalt aromas on the nose. This is followed by a full bodied wine that explodes on the palate with layers of velvety fruit, a seamless, silky texture, ripe fruit, and very long finish. Very complete and just downright fun and easy to drink, this will easily compete with the upper tier wines due to its solid complexity and seamless, balanced profile. The Boxer might be better in a year or two, but right now, I like this wine a smidge more. **(93 pts.)**

### **2009 Mollydooker Shiraz The Boxer** (*Australia, South Australia, McLaren Vale / Padthaway*) **\$25**

The 2009 Mollydooker Shiraz The Boxer, 100% Shiraz aged in 57% new American oak, comes across as slightly reserved upon opening, but opens over the evening to show ripe black currant and blackberry fruit, licorice, singed leather, pepper, and dark chocolate aromatics. Certainly lighter texture wise than some of the higher end Shiraz from this producer, the wine is full bodied and clean, showing good acidity, a rich, fleshy, mouth coating texture, and plenty of focus on the long finish. I like the balance and precision here, and while certainly a crowd pleaser to drink over the coming 5-6 years, this might be even better in a year or two. **(92+ pts.)**

### **2008 Mollydooker Sip It Forward** (*Australia, South Australia, McLaren Vale / Padthaway*) **\$25**

With all proceeds going to support children in Cambodia, the 2008 Mollydooker Sip It Forward, a blend of 68% Shiraz, 17% Merlot, and 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, delivers a mouthful of dark, rich black fruits, exotic spice, ground pepper, and brambly, underbrush like aromas and flavors. Full bodied, round and very supple, with good purity of fruit and a solid finish, this is a forward, easy going wine that's meant for drinking over the coming 2-3 years. **(89 pts.)**

**2009 Mollydooker Cabernet Sauvignon Gigglespot (Australia, South Australia, Fleurieu, Langhorne Creek) \$49**

Fruit driven and very approachable, the 2009 Mollydooker Cabernet Sauvignon Gigglespot is 100% Cabernet that's sourced mainly from McLaren Vale, with a portion from Langhorne Creek. Aged in 80% American oak and 20% French oak, with 80% being new, the wine has crisp black currant, mint, dark chocolate, and vanilla aromas on the nose, showing beautiful purity as well as perfume. This is followed by a full bodied, round, supple, and textured wine that has good freshness to the fruit, a concentrated mid-palate, and a lengthy finish. I like it now, but it will be interesting to see how this evolves over a year or two; at the very least, it should provide lots of pleasure over the coming decade. **(92 pts.)**

**2009 Mollydooker Shiraz Blue Eyed Boy (Australia, South Australia, Fleurieu, McLaren Vale) \$49**

The 100% Shiraz 2009 Mollydooker Shiraz Blue Eyed Boy pushes the envelope with thick, creamy blueberry and crème de cassis fruit characteristics that are supported by lovely spice, melted licorice, chocolate, ground pepper, and violet aromas and flavors. Extremely full bodied and rich, with a palate staining texture that is pure velvet, very ripe fruit that stays fresh, and a heady, blockbuster finish, this hides its 16% alcohol and exemplifies the hedonistic, amazingly textured Mollydooker style. As with this estate's other cuvee, I do think these can age, however, I see no reason to hold off on any of them, this one included. **(92 pts.)**

**2009 Mollydooker Shiraz Carnival of Love (Australia, South Australia, Fleurieu, McLaren Vale) \$90**

The hedonistically styled 2009 Mollydooker Shiraz Carnival of Love might not have the elegance and balance of the Velvet Glove, but man oh man does it have richness and depth. Sporting an inky purple color, the wine displays massive amount of blackberry liqueur, licorice, smoked meat, and black olive like aromatics that just come leaping out of the glass. This is followed by a full bodied wine that saturates the palate with sweet fruit, carrying a seamless, polished texture, notable balance, and a finish that just won't quit. Not for the faint of heart (seriously, if you don't like Mollydooker, this isn't going to change your opinion), but this is straight up delicious and a pleasure-seeking delight that you just can't get from anywhere (or anyone) else. I've no idea how it will age and would drink bottles over the coming 4-6 years. **(95 pts.)**

**2009 Mollydooker Enchanted Path (Australia, South Australia, Fleurieu, McLaren Vale) \$90**

Playing in the same stylistic ball park as the Carnival of Love, the 2009 Mollydooker Enchanted Path, a blend of 66% Shiraz and 34% Cabernet Sauvignon that was aged mainly in new American oak, yields decadently rich aromatics of blackberry and cassis styled fruits, lead pencil, liquid smoke, leafy tobacco, and chocolate on the nose. These traits are carried over to the palate where the wine is full bodied and exceedingly lush and full, showing a thick, mouth-coating texture, beautiful balance, and a ridiculously persistent, fruit filled finish. While I think this will continue to age relatively gracefully over the coming decade or longer, I just don't see what you gain by cellaring this style of wine and think you should enjoy these in their first 5-8 years or so. These wines are about texture, texture, texture, and you don't have to wait for it either. **(94 pts.)**

**2009 Mollydooker Shiraz Velvet Glove (Australia, South Australia, Fleurieu, McLaren Vale) \$185**

The estate's top Shiraz, the 2009 Mollydooker Shiraz Velvet Glove is a gorgeous bottle of wine! 100% McLaren Value Shiraz, aged in 97% new American oak, the wine exudes class and charm with decadent blackberry and cherry fruits, chocolate ganache, vanilla, meat juice, and coffee bean like aromas and flavors. Despite the overall size here, this stays beautifully focused and fresh, showing not only solid purity of fruit, but also a layered, already complex profile. Full bodied, well defined, and clean on the palate, with the expected mouth-coating richness, but also fine-grained tannin structure and real density and depth to the mid-palate, this stunning wine should improve over the coming 1-3 years, and have a solid 10-15 year drink window. Superb stuff! **(97 pts.)**