



with its genial outlook and outdoor areas. A cheese platter seals the deal. **MB**
OUTSTANDING WINE: 2011 Grove Estate Cellar Block Shiraz Viognier, A\$37

BEST SMALL CELLAR DOOR
FREEMAN VINEYARDS 02 6384 4299,
www.freemanvineyards.com.au

Tumbarumba

STAR CELLAR DOOR, BEST SMALL WINERY AND BEST TASTING EXPERIENCE

COURABYRA WINES

02 6948 2462, www.courabyrawines.com

Tumbarumba's run at wine tourism hasn't really started, so a visit to the area has to be more about soaking up the sub-Alpine scenery and dipping into some of the excellent local produce that can be sourced from regional hamlets. To get an introduction to Tumbarumba, head to Courabyra for a vineyard tour that covers the history of the region, grape growing for sparkling wine, wine tasting, some down time on the Courabyra property. They can even organise accommodation and a massage. Sounds ideal, right? Meanwhile, Courabyra's wines have burst onto the scene – sourced from their own growing endeavours in some of the best parts of the region, the wines have had help from high-end winemakers; cue Ed Carr and Alex McKay. It is worth the visit alone to check out where the remarkably excellent, stand-out release of 2001 Courabyra 805 Sparkling, comes from. Go forth. **MB**

OUTSTANDING WINE: 2001 Courabyra 805 Sparkling, A\$55

Riverina

STAR WINERY WESTEND ESTATE

02 6969 0800, www.westendestate.com.au

This is the quintessential Riverina experience complete with friendly welcome, attractive cellar door space, and a wide-range of quality wines at prices that are difficult to believe.

WINE TRAVELLER



HISTORY LESSON
 The cellar door at Cupitt's Winery dates back to 1851. Left: the Calabria family at Westend Estate.

The Calabria family has been making wine in Griffith since 1945 and the business and the wines have been flourishing under Bill Calabria's stewardship. The Tuscan-style building is surrounded by lawns, a garden and a small feature vineyard. There are several Riverina ranges: 3 Bridges, Richland, Poker Face and Calabria Brothers. The Calabria label features an outstanding aglianico, which will soon be joined by other indigenous red varieties from Southern Italy, including negromara, nero d'Avola and montepulciano. The Cool Climate range offers riesling, semillon sauvignon blanc, pinot noir, tempranillo and shiraz from nearby Hilltops and Canberra. At the annual Unwined Festival the cellar door is transformed into a restaurant to celebrate the wines and their Italian heritage. **MB**

OUTSTANDING WINE: 2010 Westend '3 Bridges' Golden Mist Botrytis Semillon (375ml), A\$30

BEST LARGE CELLAR DOOR

DE BORTOLI 02 6966 0100,
www.debortoli.com.au

BEST SMALL CELLAR DOOR

YARRAN 02 6968 1125,
www.yarranwines.com.au

Shoalhaven Heads

STAR CELLAR DOOR CUPITT'S WINERY

02 4455 7888, www.cupittwines.com.au

Cupitt's Winery is a regional showpiece. The cellar door is in an old sandstone creamery which dates back to 1851. The adjacent Vineyard Kitchen has been built in sympathy with the additional benefit of a cool underground cellar. Views over the small family vineyard, the shimmering Burrill Lake and the distant Budawang Ranges complete the picture perfect scene. Behind this beautifully integrated enterprise is a dynamo, Rosie Cupitt. She's a trained horticulturalist who ran a food-oriented pub in Bowral (with husband Griff) and took gourmet garden tours to France before re-skilling with an oenology course at

Charles Sturt and then planting this small family vineyard. Not all the fruit comes from the home vineyard but the NSW-only wines are clearly labelled as such. Enjoy a ploughman's platter, olives, dips and breads at the cellar door or go the whole hog at the Vineyard Kitchen with fresh local seafood and Griff's Angus beef. This is a truly family affair with Rosie and Griff's three (adult) children each taking a meaningful role. **PB**

OUTSTANDING WINE: 2012 Cupitt's Shoalhaven Sauvignon Blanc, A\$26

BEST LARGE CELLAR DOOR

COOLANGATTA ESTATE 02 4448 7131,
www.coolangattaestate.com.au

BEST SMALL CELLAR DOOR

CAMBEWARRA ESTATE 02 4446 0170,
www.cambewarraestate.com.au

CELLAR DOOR WITH BEST FOOD

SILOS ESTATE & WILEYS CREEK

02 4448 6082, www.thesilos.com

BEST TASTING EXPERIENCE

MORRELLIS WINES 0414 344 431,
www.morrellis.com.au

BEST ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

(golf, accommodation, historic hamlet)
COOLANGATTA ESTATE 02 4448 7131,
www.coolangattaestate.com.au

Southern Highlands

STAR CELLAR DOOR TERTINI WINES

02 4878 5213, www.tertiniwines.com.au

Julian Tertini began developing his Yaraan-doo vineyard in 2000 and has quickly built a reputation for the quality of his eponymous wines. Pinot noir is clearly the top grape variety with riesling also showing great promise. Other varieties include cabernet sauvignon, chardonnay, arneis, pinot gris, merlot and lagrein. Winemaking is in the youthful hands of Jonathan Holgate, who also presides over the on-site High Range Vintners, making wines under contract for other Southern Highlands winegrowers. The cellar door is a simple affair but good coffee and local cheeses add panache. However, the focus is the multi-award winning Tertini wines: a