

Gentle Annie Review from James Halliday 2005 Australian Wine Companion

“James Halliday’s Australian Wine Companion is the No. 1 best-selling guide to wineries and wine in Australia – and this brand-new 2005 edition is by far Halliday’s most complete and exhaustively researched to date. James Halliday is Australia’s most respected wine critic and wine writer.”

Gentle Annie Wines

4 ½ Stars

Gentle Annie was established by Melbourne businessman Tony Cotter, together with wife Anne and five daughters assisting with sales and marketing. The name Gentle Annie was that of an early settler renowned for her beauty and gentle temperament. The vineyard is a substantial one, with 4 hectares of Verdelho, 41 hectares of shiraz and 23 hectares of cabernet sauvignon planted on old volcanic ferrosol soils, similar to the red Cambrian loam at Heathcote. The winemaking team is headed by David Hodgson, who also heads up the Oenology faculty at Dookie College. Gentle Annie has hitherto sold the major part of its grape production, winning the Brown Brothers Grower of the Year title for the last two vintages. Other sales are to Southcorp. The increasing production of Gentle Annie Wines has a substantial export component, likely to grown in the future. In the meantime, the very impressive wines are available by mail order and through www.gentle-annie.com.

- 4 ½ Stars** **Shiraz 2002** Potent blackberry, prune and plum; rich in the mouth; ripe tannins, typical Central Victorian style. **Rating 92 Drink 2017 \$25**
- 4 ½ Stars** **Verdelho 2003** Floral, tangy and aromatic; a mix of citrus and apple; exceptional varietal example. **Rating 90 Drink Now \$18**
- 4 ½ Stars** **Shiraz Cabernet Sauvignon 2002** Big, chewy mid-palate of blackberry, chocolate and prune; the finish however is not extractive. **Rating 90 Drink 2015 \$25**
- 4 ½ Stars** **Cabernet Sauvignon 2002** Generous, fleshy ripe blackcurrant fruit and a touch of regional mint; medium bodied, balanced tannins. **Rating 90 Drink 2013 \$25**

Tasting Notes

94 - 100	5 Stars	Outstanding. Wines of the highest quality, usually with a distinguished pedigree.
90 - 93	4 ½ Stars	Highly recommended. Wines of great quality, style and character, worthy of a place in any cellar.
87 - 89	4 Stars	Recommended. Wines of above average quality, fault-free, and with clear varietal expression.
84 - 86	3 ½ Stars	Fair to good. Wines with plenty of flavour (usually varietal) and good balance; free of technical faults.
80 - 83	3 Stars	Everyday wines: price is particularly relevant; under \$10 will represent good value.
75 - 79	2 ½ Stars	Also tasted: usually wines with some deficiency, technical or otherwise.

Winery Ratings

5 Stars	Outstanding winery regularly producing exemplary wines.
4 ½ Stars	Extremely good; virtually on a par with a five-star winery.
4 Stars	Consistently produces high-quality wines.
3 ½ Stars	A solid, reliable producer of good wines.
3 Stars	Typically good, but may have a few lesser wines.
2 ½ Stars	Adequate.
NR	Normally ascribed where I have not tasted wines from the producer in the past 12 months.