

Step Rd NV Sparkling Chardonnay Pinot Noir

"The blend works well with fresh sliced apple aromas and flavours shining through the bubbles."
Ross Noble – The Courier (SA) – 'Take the heat off with sparklers' – January 25, 2012

Step Rd Adelaide Hills 2007 Chardonnay

"Scented, herbal, mineral nose. Fine herb freshness on the palate with elegant and classy style. Fruit is ripe and supple on the finish. Terrific."

Judges comments – Trophy & Gold Medal Winner – International Wine Challenge 2010

"Glowing yellow-green; has developed a complex bouquet and palate, but not becoming broad; nectarine and citrus fruit has life and zest, French oak adding its voice to the appeal of the wine. Rating: 93 Points."

James Halliday – Australian Wine Companion – January 12, 2011

Step Rd Adelaide Hills 2010 Sauvignon Blanc

"If the Adelaide Hills is not the Sav Blanc capital of Australia, it at least deserves a cabinet meeting. 8.6 / 10."

Max Crus – The Morning Bulletin (Qld) – Weekend Buzz – January 22, 2011

"Step aside: Adelaide Hills born and bred winemaker Justin Coates takes a step aside from his Langhorne Creek base in going back to the Hills for the fruit for the Step Rd Adelaide Hills Sauvignon Blanc 2010. The Mt Barker resident has achieved intense ripe gooseberry aromas and flavours with a bracing acid finish."

Ross Noble – The Courier (SA) – Wine with Ross Noble 'Savvy sales soar' – March 9, 2011

Step Rd Adelaide Hills 2010 Pinot Gris

"Langhorne Creek winery Step Rd stepped over to the Adelaide Hills for fruit for the Step Rd Adelaide Hills Pinot Gris 2010. Littlehampton born and bred winemaker Justin Coates knows the Hills well and pinot gris grapes from a very cool elevated vineyard was the choice. Lycee characters emerge on the nose and palate and the texture is soft and appealing."

Ross Noble – The Courier (SA) – Food & Wine 'Grey area on white pinots' – April 6, 2011

"From a cool-climate vineyard in the Adelaide Hills, there's oodles of both flavour and finesse in this wine. Pinot gris is the 'French' style of the Italian 'pinot grigio', and tends to be more rounded, luscious and rich as compared to the more crisp and zesty grigio. This Step Rd wine, made by Justin Coates, has abundant pear and honeysuckle aromas mingle in the mouth with a rounded, luscious texture and lingering depth and richness. A stylish sip particularly alongside prawns."

Katrina Holden – Sip Your Style – October 23, 2011

"Tightly structured in grigio fashion, but does have apple and pear fruit aromas and flavours. Rating: 89 Points."

James Halliday – Australian Wine Companion – January 12, 2011

Step Rd Langhorne Creek 2007 Shiraz

"Rich dark brick red colour with a lighter small rim. Nose offers malty wood aromas, crushed peppercorns, loganberry and plum fruit, with mocha and olive notes. Big juicy burst of blackberry fruit in the mouth pierced with warm spicy daggers and dried herbs. The mid-palate is smooth and almost creamy with a bitter chocolate note to the long finish."

Judges comments – Silver Medal Winner – International Wine & Spirit Competition 2010

"It's a good, honest wine. Rich and luscious. Packed with blackcurrant and mint-like flavour. Vanillin oak shows keenly but attractively. It'll age for the next few years, but it'll be at its best over the next couple. Good clobber; uncomplicated but full of flavour. Rated: 90 Points"

Campbell Mattinson – The Wine Front – Dec 6, 2010

"Here's an interesting contrast in styles from Langhorne Creek's modern winery Step Rd – it's where the winery is. Young Mt Barker winemaker Justin Coates is the one doused in purple during vintage and he has done a fine job with this pair. At the time of writing the Shiraz has done better at shows with a silver medal and Top of Class at the International Wine & Spirit Competition 2010 and also a silver at Decanter World Wine Awards 2010 plus a bronze at Royal Melbourne 2010."

The 2007 Shiraz is deep on the palate in a long, dry finish."
Ross Noble – The Courier (SA) – My Selection – May 18, 2011

Step Rd Langhorne Creek 2006 Shiraz

"Step Rd Langhorne Creek Shiraz 2006 is a ripe and rich wine which is excellent now, and promising to get even better within a year or two. It was a gold medal – best in class – at the 2009 International Wine and Spirit Competition competing against shiraz from around the world. Opulent flavours of blackberry, dark cherry with appealing generous layers on the palate make for a most satisfying drink. With home-made lasagne on a wintry night it called for repeats in the glass and left a lip-smacking finish in the mouth."

Ross Noble – The Courier (SA) – Food & Wine 'Take the right Step' – Sept 8, 2010

Step Rd Langhorne Creek 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon

"The 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon has not had time to register show success at this stage but the 2006 version won silver at two international wine shows and at Royal Adelaide Wine Show 2008. The 2007 vintage was in a drought year with reduced yield but as often happens the fewer grapes are of higher quality. From the first pour in the glass the depth of colour is impressive and the nose is pervasive with fruit to the fore. Then follow soft, appealing flavours of dark plum, raspberry and black cherry balanced with firmish tannins and a hint of mint with subtle oak characters in a dry mouthfeel at the finish."

Ross Noble – The Courier (SA) – My Selection – May 18, 2011

"A burst of tasty-vanilla aroma leads to a blocky-but-substantial palate filled with leather, blackcurrant and earth-like flavour. Rated: 88 Points"

Campbell Mattinson – The Wine Front – Nov 15, 2011

Step Rd Langhorne Creek 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon

"Good density.

The story: Cabernet from Langhorne Creek has been a legendary part of many major Australian brands, its ability to bring a unique mint and dusty country appeal often revered.

The flavour: That's where this wine starts. It's got a good amount of flesh and juice, late summer bramble, good density and a certain knockabout flair as a barbeque red.

Rating: 3/5 stars

Value: Fair

Verdict: Don't burn the chops"

Tony Love – The Advertiser (SA) – Reviews by Tony Love – August 25, 2010

"The Step Rd Cabernet Sauvignon 2006 is also a smooth example of what Langhorne Creek can offer. Rather more savoury than the Shiraz, it yet gives the impression it's a wine for a few years time, though it's a pleasant drink now.

It picked up a silver medal at the Royal Adelaide Show 2008 and also at the International Wine and Spirit Competition 2008."

Ross Noble – The Courier (SA) – Wine with Ross Noble – September 8, 2010

"Step Rd 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon is a fine example of Langhorne Creek product with the complexity of mintiness added to the rich fruit of blackberry and chocolate that defines the variety."

David Bray – QHA Review (QLD) – David Bray's Top Shelf – April 2011

Step Rd Langhorne Creek 2006 Sangiovese

"The Step Rd 2006 Sangiovese (Langhorne Creek, South Australia) is deep purple, almost brick-red in colour, and its nose is awash with savoury sour-cherry flavours. The palate is soft and judicious with lovely expressive raspberry, prune and chocolaty notes. Velvety tannins combined with integrated oak give this wine a depth of flavour on a long, mature, fruit-driven finish. One of the best Australian Sangioveses I've tasted!"

Jim McMahon – Education Magazine (NSW) – Corkscrew - June 28, 2010