

C heryl L ee

The early perception that our wines were overpriced has also been overcome. The prices have hardly moved in 10 years. There's two price points for Peninsula wines: \$15-\$20 and \$30-\$40, which is incredibly good value for what we offer.

What would you like to change about the place ?

More people need to band together and get serious about environmental sustainability.

Many are doing their own localised things in small pockets, but that commitment needs to be broadened into a region-wide perspective, so that we can make a real difference.

From an industry point of view, we began years ago studying the environmental impact of the wine industry and introducing best practice methods.

We opened-up communication with the Red Hill community about what we do, which enabled us to correct a lot of misinformation and allowed us to take onboard peoples thoughts and concerns.

Favourite place on the Peninsula ?

The Westernport coastline; we walk from Point Leo to Flinders quite often. It's a solid two hour walk and a great experience. Pt Leo has hardly changed since I was a girl. It's still an amazing place with a beautiful beach and has so many aspects along the coastline.

Best drive ?

The Peninsula's topography means that it is a series of small and diverse experiences. I took a drive recently around Moorooduc and Balnarring, which made me realise how unaffected and beautiful some of those little pockets really still are.



Where's the best place to get reconnected to nature ?

Bushrangers Bay is just spectacular and I remember taking the kids there a lot during the early days to play in the rock pools. Every Saturday morning I used to head out with a friend to experience something we didn't know about the Peninsula. It was often just a little road reserve, a short walk, a café or a shop. Even after 23 years it's amazing what there is still to discover about the place.

Favourite eating places ?

We eat at all of the winery restaurants, but we also like to discover the seasonal local produce and cook at home. There's a lot of little cafes in Mornington I love to go to and, for something quite different, the picnic at Montalto is fantastic.

What's the quintessential Peninsula gift ?

That's easy - a bottle of Peninsula Pinot and, if they were really special, I would combine it with Red Hill Cheese and some handmade Mornington Peninsula chocolates.

Where would you love to live if not on the Peninsula ?

I love travelling and there are plenty of places I would like to live for a short time, like Santorini or in the south of France. However, if we were to move permanently, the only place we have ever considered is Tasmania, where we could perhaps re-capture something like the Peninsula used to be. However, the benefit of doing so much travelling is that it confirms how good it is to come home to this place

- Tim Bracher



ABOVE: Picnic at Montalto
RIGHT: The Westernport Coastline at Flinders



WINTER WINE WEEKEND

QUEENS BIRTHDAY 2009



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