

MOUNTAIN *vineyard* AND COTTAGE



For anyone visiting the Blue Mountains during the holiday season there is one stop that is highly recommended for both the wine lover and for those just wanting a pleasant BBQ with a million dollar view. These are just two of the compelling reasons to visit Dryridge Estate.

Just a short and pleasant two hour drive from Sydney, next to the World Heritage Blue Mountains National Park, lies the picturesque Dryridge Estate in the beautiful Megalong Valley. It is easily found by looking for the signs on Megalong Road.

Dryridge Estate offers quality accommodation, distinctive medal-winning wines and the opportunity to talk to the owners who have made a successful tree-change. The vineyard is planted on the hillside and the view from the cottage is magnificent, not to mention the astounding diversity of animal and plant life in the region. For those wanting to stay for a day or a week there is the opportunity to relax and experience the magic of mountain life when you stay at the popular 4.5 star holiday accommodation. Sunrise Lodge has stunning views across the vineyard, is complete with open fires, indoor hot tub, kitchen and laundry. Whilst the guests are often couples seeking quality time on their own, the lodge accommodates four guests in two bedrooms, each with their own ensuite. And for those who prefer an action holiday, there is a lot to do in and around the Estate.

The owners have pioneered commercial viticulture in the mountains and their vines are hand-tended and hand-

picked with the wine making practices being an eclectic mix of Old World and New World techniques. The wines are available at their Cellar Door on Sundays or by appointment at any time. The quality restaurants and retail outlets throughout the Blue Mountains also stock Dryridge wines. Delivery is free throughout NSW when wine is ordered online.

The conditions of licence restrict the tasting of wine but visitors are most welcome to sample a bottle in the vineyard. Picnic tables and glasses are provided so bring your lunch and enjoy the wines with food while overlooking the vineyard.

Dryridge Estate sell half dozen lots at case prices and if you decide on a case purchase the 'sample' bottle is free so not a bad deal all round. Dryridge makes three varieties of wines and they are:

- 2009 Blue Mountains Riesling
- 2009 Six Foot Track Shiraz
- 2009 Nellie's Cabernet Rosé

Open Sunday from 11.00am or by appointment at any time but you must ring first on 02 4787 5625.

Greg Bondari

Food and Wine Editor

