

YOUR DINING BIBLE

THE  AGE

# goodfood

## Guide



Edited by Janne Apelgren

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### Ten Minutes by Tractor

1333 Mornington-Flinders Road, Main Ridge 5989 6080

CONTEMPORARY

  16/20



### Regional



Royal Mail Hotel



Lake House, Loam, Provenance,  
Stefano's, Tea Rooms of Yarck,  
Ten Minutes by Tractor

A tractor is this winery's mascot, but rural rusticity is left at the door. The bar, with an open fire in winter, beckons. Then a dining area, immaculate as a designer penthouse, but relaxed, with its varnished timber, big windows and rolling vineyard view. Chef Stuart Bell's seasonal menus draw on a kitchen garden and organic local growers for dishes like a brilliant vegetarian entree – roasted corn, silken tofu, witlof and rosemary oil with satiny sweetcorn velouté poured at table. Cape Grim eye fillet accompanies slow-braised beef cheek, with parsnip and horseradish, and onion with red wine jus. Hapuku arrives parmesan-crusted on cauliflower puree with baby leeks, enoki mushrooms and chive-and-chardonnay sauce. Main Ridge pears come several ways in one dessert – caramelised, folded through pear mousse, as pear cannoli – with ginger and champagne jelly and popcorn icecream. Like many dishes, it's a visual and culinary composition. This modernistic temple to wine and food is well worth a pilgrimage.

**Open** Wed-Sun noon-3pm; Thurs-Sat 6.30-9pm  
**Typical prices** Fixed-price menus \$68 (2 courses), \$88 (3 courses), degustation \$120 (6 courses)  
**Cards** AE MC V Eftpos

**Wine** Recommended wines from all over in an annotated leather tome, not just local or estate; fine chardonnay, pinot noir and burgundies star  
**Owner** Martin Spedding

**Chef** Stuart Bell

**Seats** 50; outdoor seating; bar  
**www**.tenminutesbytractor.com.au

**And ...** Try the special six-course degustation.

### Best Regional Wine List TEN MINUTES BY TRACTOR MAIN RIDGE

You'll find two lists here, one short and sweet, the other long and lovely. The former offers wines by the glass (including flights) and enticing half bottles. There are the tremendous Ten Minutes by Tractor wines – chardonnay, pinot gris, sauvignon blanc, rosé and pinot noir. Move on to half a dozen each of whites and reds with boutique options, such as biodynamic Lark Hill gruner veltliner or Mount Majura shiraz. As to the large list, it's impressive, if sometimes pricey, and bound to win over everyone from wine geeks to aficionados. It's a paean to Burgundy, the passion of owner Martin Spedding, but there's an extraordinary selection of Mornington Peninsula chardonnay and pinot noir, too.