

Clairault

MARGARET RIVER

••• ESTATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2004

BLEND

Cabernet Sauvignon 88%, Merlot 6%, Shiraz 6%

TASTING NOTES

Deep red colour. Ripe cassis fruit dominate the aroma followed by violets, vanilla, mint and dried herbs. A slight eucalyptus aroma is also evident. The palate is full bodied with a strong core of fruit and solid tannin structure. The tannins are quite fine so will soften and integrate well with time.

WINEMAKING NOTES

This wine is sourced primarily from our oldest blocks of Cabernet and Merlot on the property. These low yielding vines produce grapes with complex fruit aromas and fine mature tannins. Fermentation occurs in 4 tonne open fermenters and the wine will remain on skins for at least 15 days before pressing. After Pressing the wine is pumped straight to 25 – 50% new French oak barriques, where it undergoes MLF and maturation for 24 months. Blending occurs after 18 months and then the wine is returned to barrel for a further 6 months so the fruit and oak tannins can fully integrate.

WINEMAKING DATA

Sugar Level at Picking: 13.5 – 14.0 Baume

Wine pH: 3.40

Wine Titratable Acidity: 7.00

Wine Residual Sugar: 0.23

Alcohol: 15.0%

WINEMAKER

Will Shields

ACCOLADES

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ACCOLADES

TROPHY	International Wine Challenge 2008 (Best Western Australian Red Wine)
GOLD	International Wine Challenge 2008 “Very firm tannins give this wine a chunkiness on the palate, with good savoury plums and chocolate. Delicious!”
Top 100	Sydney International Wine Competition 2008
Blue Gold	Sydney International Wine Competition 2008
Silver	Commonwealth Bank Margaret River Wine Show 2006
Silver	International Wine & Spirit Competition 2008
Bronze	The Royal Perth Wine Show 2007
Bronze	QANTAS Wine Show of WA 2007
Bronze	Macquarie Margaret River Wine Show 2007
Bronze	Decanter World Wine Awards 2008

Top 10—Australian Wines, Telegraph UK, Jonathan Ray, March 2009

“A trophy winner at the recent International Wine Challenge, This is a very classy cab sav indeed (with added splashes of merlot and shiraz). Along with intense sweet cassis notes and elegant tannins there is a herbal quality to the wine too and a mouth-filling finish. Although high in alcohol it’s silky smooth and a great partner to the rarest of steaks.”

92/100 Ray Jordan—The West Weekend Magazine—Aug 2008
“This is a stunning example of Margaret River Cabernet. It’s all sinewy powerful and robust but with elegance and poise. Deep blackcurrent and black olive aromas evolve seamlessly into the palate. Clearly one of the best yet from Clairault and benefiting from some old vines.”

★★★★★ Decanter Magazine February 2009
“Soft, mature, but positive nose of blackberries and prunes. Rounded, velvety, with forest-fruit flavours. Mature, softened tannins, with a hint of mint on the finish. From 2009.”

★★★ Winestate Magazine Nov/Dec 07
“Mature and complex on the nose and with a flavoursome sweet oaky palate. One for the cellar. 5+ years.”

★★★★☆ James Hallidays Aust. Wine Companion 2008 (91/100)
“Oak plays an important role in distinguishing this wine from the regional version, giving it more structure, but (given the alcohol) it is surprising there isn’t more sweet fruit.”

92/100 Gary Walsh www.winorama.com.au Dec 2007

