



CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2007

Blend

88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Merlot, 6% Petit Verdot

Tasting Notes

The colour is a deep brick red. The aromas is deep and brooding with bramble fruit flavours, blackberry, plum, blueberry. There is also a complex forest floor aromas, aromas of freshly dug soil, composting leaves and nettles. Overall a complex and captivating bouquet. The palate is rounded and soft up front with silky tannins and gentle acidity. It has good length and finishes with a youthful tartness.

Winemaking Notes

The 2007 vintage was greatly influenced by a mild spring, producing an early budburst and flowering and robust growth. This had the effect of bringing our picking forward by close to 4 weeks and in turn resulting in ripening occurring in the warmer months of February and March instead of the usual March/April. Whilst February and March were warm there was a lack of really hot days that can damage flavour. The overall result was great flavour concentration in both whites and reds.

All the fruit for this wine came from the Clairault vineyard in Wilyabrup, from 6 individual sites each exhibiting its own personality and character. Approximately 25% of the blend is from our 30 year old "A-block" vines. Winemaking thereafter was typically traditional, with small open fermenters, 10 to 20 days on skins and maturation in 30% new French oak barriques for 18 months.

Winemaking Analysis

Sugar Level at Picking: 14.0 to 14.5 Baume

Wine pH: 3.57

Wine Titratable Acidity: 6.3 g/L

Residual Sugar: 0.34 g/L

Alcohol: 14.5%

Winemaker: Will Shields

ACCOLADES

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ACCOLADES

TROPHY Best Red Wine in Hong Kong below HK\$200
GOLD Hong Kong International Wine & Spirit Competition 2010
Bronze International Wine Challenge 2010

92/100 Ray Jordan's 2010 Wine Guide

Another superb cabernet from one of the most improved producers in the region. Leafy tobacco aromas with some nice blackcurrant influences completing the bouquet. The palate has seamless structure with silky fine tannins, fine grained oak and lavishly textured fruit. It's a complete wine with a strong future. Cellar 6 years.

Review Drinks Trade Magazine, June/July 2010

Very complex aromas of cedar and brambles. Savoury on the palate with black fruits, cedar and mint. A lovely, long finish—a serious wine. Aaron. Complex dry berry notes with lots of spicy oak. A generous, long varietal with a great finish. Scott McWilliam.

93/100 The Big Red Wine Book, Jul10, Mattinson & Walsh

Clairault Estate is moving steadily into the use of biological farming techniques—a regime described by some as “bio dynamics, minus the hocus-pocus.” Whatever the biological farming is, it's great [soft footprint] way to treat your land. We fully understand that twenty six dollars is not cheap for a bottle of wine. But when you taste a wine like this—OK, after a couple of glasses maybe—the beauty and enjoyment of it quickly outshines whatever you paid for it. It tastes so enticingly of blackcurrant, lead pencil, earth, chocolate and a touch of mint. It has smooth, gently tannic palate that fans out and fills your mouth. And it has an earthy, dry finish. Gulp. It's beautiful. Drink 2010—2015.

93 / 100 James Halliday Wine Companion 2011 [4.5 glass rating]

Crimson-purple; classic blackcurrant cassis aromas boosted by French oak, then a medium-bodied palate with the fruit encircled by persistent, but fine, tannins. Drink 2017

90 / 100 eRobertParker.com, Lisa Perrotti-Brown MW, Oct 10

The 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon was matured 18 months in French barriques, 30% new. With a deep garnet-purple color, it is intensely scented of creme de cassis, kirsch, graphite and mocha plus subtle earthy, forest floor notes. The palate leads with a foundation of medium-firm, sandy textured tannins and high acidity supporting ripe, expressive fruit. It has a long finish. Approachable now, it should drink best 2012-2017+.

86 / 100 Jeremy Oliver Australian Wine Annual 2011

