

ESTATE RESERVE CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2008

WINESTAR

February 2011

No. 1 Pick

...if there was a single wine from this vintage that is eerily Bordeaux-like it would not be Moss Wood or Cullen or Cape Mentelle but the Sandalford Reserve Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2008 which even the most ardent enthusiast would fail to pick as a classified growth of Pauillac, Bordeaux. The nose has classic Cabernet notes of black currants and bay leaf, but leans old world with a spectrum of ripe cherry and berry fruits with lifted, perfumed aromatics infused with hints of oak and truffles. Despite its youth, it shows luscious ripe but dark fruit flavours in the mouth with perfect integration of tannin and acidity creating a textural masterpiece. The Bordeaux-like analogy is complete with brambly and savoury characters on the back of a very long finish. An exceptional wine in my book, it is a pup by any measure and has at least a decade in front of it. The irony with the old world comparisons is Bordeaux of this quality, at our offer price would be a container buy. A container load would be more than the entire make of the Sandalford and thanks to very strong media reviews well before its release, it won't last very long at all.

WINESTATE MAGAZINE

Special Edition 2010

Very Bordeaux-like, with big, ripe perfumed fruit bouquet showing a cedary edge. Wonderful flavours fill the mouth and are supported by tannins.

THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN MAGAZINE

James Halliday's Top 100 Wines, November 2010

96/100

The '08 Prendiville Reserve of Sandalford is the better wine, but at \$90 looks expensive compared to this, which has some Bordeaux-like savoury, bramble characters. A classic cabernet, all about texture, structure and length, rather than opulence; the flavours are at the optimum point of ripeness.

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER

Ray Jordan, 11 September 2010

94/100

Has a distinct, cool, minty aroma which seems to be coming from the regional fruit source and the aromatic cedary oak. The palate is a tightly wound coil spring, with firm angular tannins and silky fine oak working a treat to support this impressive fruit. Very stylish wine of great class that is best kept in the cellar for a few years.

THE BIG RED WINE BOOK 2010/11

Campbell Mattinson and Gary Walsh, July 2010

94/100

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