



SANDALFORD

MARGARET RIVER

RANGE



2008 Margaret River Range Cabernet Merlot

VARIETAL BREAKDOWN

55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc & 3% Malbec

REGION

100% Margaret River

VINTAGE

2008 was a return to what we would classify as a “normal” vintage in Western Australia. After a hot December and January, conditions moderated to give us a perfect three months of harvest with no disease in the fruit and no inclement weather. Perfect ripeness was the order of the day.

WINEMAKERS COMMENTS

The fruit for this wine was machine harvested during the cool of night, March 2008. After crushing the must was inoculated with a Bordeaux Red strain of yeast and fermentation proceeded at an even pace for two weeks until dryness. The wine was then drained and pressed. After MLF the wine was matured for 6 months in older French oak barriques prior to blending, clarification and bottling in early 2009.

TASTING NOTES

COLOUR

Dark cherry red with a magenta hue

NOSE

Classic cassis with unmistakable plum and dusty notes from the Merlot influence. The Malbec has added savoury notes whilst the regional leafy character of Margaret River shines through. Subtle vanilla oak tones in support.

PALATE

This is a mouth-filling full-bodied wine packed with dark berry fruit flavours and spicy, earthy characters. Firm, astringent tannins make this a formidable wine which certainly delivers bang for your buck. Still quite young and cellaring for several years will only make this a more outstanding wine as the years roll on.

WINE ANALYSIS

Alcohol	14.1 %
Residual Sugar	2.1 g/l
Acidity	6.15 g/l
pH	3.65

AWARDS

§ **Silver Medal** 2010 Cowra Wine Show

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ACCOLADES

“« « « stars / 5 Best of Western Australia”
Winestate Magazine, January 2011 Annual Edition

“Some wines are very easy to review and this is one such wine ... If you’ve a taste for good supping Margaret Cabernet at a fair price then walk this way. Enough said. Score 90/100.”
LCBO Vintages, Down Under Lowdown – Top Aussie Reds, 2nd October 2010, page 15.

“Sandalford has well and truly leapt into the big league of premium producers in WA, having now completely transformed itself to a Margaret River wine operation. The Estate Reserve and Margaret River Range are entirely from Margaret River. The team of owner Peter Prendiville and winemaker Paul Boulden have taken the wines in an exciting new direction.”
Ray Jordan’s 2011 WA Wine Guide, published October 2010, page 151

“92 Points”
Australian Wine Showcase Magazine, November 2010 Edition

“Bright ripe fruit with earthy tannins and a light but well supported structure goes hand in hand with simple flavoured dishes. Wine-making know-how at Sandalford has shelled out a wine with clarity and the flavours of redder fruits, currants and ripe plums.... 8.5/10 points.”
Geraldton Guardian, August 2010

“RED 5 STAR WINERY – Sandalford is an outstanding winery regularly producing wines of exemplary quality and typicity.”
cAustralia’s most pre-eminent wine critic, James Halliday, awards Sandalford Wines the very coveted RED 5 star rating in the Australian Wine Companion 2011 Edition released 28th July 2010.

“An eye-catching crimson colour leads to an intense, young and seriously delicious mouthfeel of cabernet flavours. The oak and oak handling are excellent. The other facets of the wine making and the resulting textures are excellent. The lingering quality fruit flavours are excellent.”
Western Suburbs Weekly, John Jens, May 2010, page 26.

“Pretty, perfumed, cooler climate style of cabernet that’s very elegant and feminine. Lifted aromas and persistent, medium-bodied palate. 4 stars.”
Winestate, The Wine and Spirit Insider, ‘Best of the West’, page 106, May/June Issue 2010

“Intense and powerful blackberry flavours, silky smooth texture. Good winter drinking.”
Wine with Peter Forrestal, May 2010

“Producer of the Year, and Winemaker of the Year: Sandalford Wines. Since taking over Sandalford a few years ago Paul Boulden has consistently produced outstanding wines, based primarily on one of the oldest Margaret River vineyards. The combination of winemaker Paul Boulden and owner Peter Prendiville has proved an awesome double act resulting in outstanding wines across the board.”
Leading West Australian Wine Critic Ray Jordan, at the launch of Ray Jordan’s 2010 WA Wine Guide, 30 November 2009.

“Some wines are very easy to review and this is one such wine. I’ve no questions about the style or quality on offer here, no need to deliberate ummm and ahhh, and as such it makes my job that much easier. I like that sort of thing and I’m all for an easy life. If you’ve a taste for good supping Margaret Cabernet at a fair price then walk this way. Enough said. Score 90/100.”
The Wine Front, Gary Walsh and Campbell Mattinson, September 2009

“Great varietal lift of blackcurrant on the nose, and a youthful, briary fruit palate.”
The Wine & Spirit Insider, August 2009

“Beautiful aromas of redcurrant and cedar with some plummy fruit cake characters. The palate has incredible intensity with a lingering persistent finish. Poised and powerful at the same time. Tannins are very strong and ripe. This is one that will easily cellar for a few years.”
Ray Jordan, The West Australian – Great Reds, 25 June 2009

Winestate Magazine Top 40 “Best Buy”