
RATING

94

**Faber Vineyard Reserve Swan Valley
Shiraz 2010**

Variety: Shiraz
Region: Swan Valley

Drink by: 2025
Date tasted: 24/12/2012
Alcohol:14.5%

Deep colour; comes in a massive, heavy bottle that is a true portent of the full-bodied wine within; everything is in abundance - black fruits, licorice, dark chocolate and tar - but in balance with the tannins and oak. Shows what the Swan Valley can do if given the chance.

RATING

89

Faber Vineyard Dwellingup Malbec 2011

Variety: Malbec
Region: Swan Valley

Drink by: 2017
Date tasted: 24/12/2012
Alcohol:13.8%

Bright crimson-purple; this is a notoriously difficult variety in Australia, partly because of its erratic cropping levels and partly due to its lack of structure. Griffiths makes it every year, and usually manages to minimise its problems, although this wine has good black fruits but not much structure to speak of.

RATING

91

Faber Vineyard Riche Shiraz 2011

Variety: Shiraz
Region: Swan Valley

Drink by: 2019
Date tasted: 24/12/2012
Alcohol:14.5%

Typical deep purple-crimson of Faber shiraz, and also the volume of blackberry and satsuma plum flavours. The free-run juice has mixed benefits: it increases elegance and perfume, but lowers texture which is partially replaced by the French and American oak in which the wine is matured.

RATING

92

Faber Vineyard Petit Verdot 2011

Variety: Petit Verdot

Region: Swan Valley

Drink by: 2021

Date tasted: 24/12/2012

Alcohol:13.5%

Sourced from a Dwellingup Vineyard and the Faber Vineyard in the Swan Valley. As is usual, has deep colour, but less usual is the tempered elegance and fresh acidity of the red and black fruits - particularly given the hot climates involved.

RATING

88

Faber Vineyard Swan Verdelho 2012

Variety: Verdelho

Region: Swan Valley

Drink by: 2014

Date tasted: 24/12/2012

Alcohol:13.5%

Well-made, but it's rare to encounter verdelho (outside the island of Madeira) that sets the pulse racing. Regardless, has the expected ripe fruit salad flavours.

RATING

93

Faber Vineyard Frankland River Cabernet 2010

Variety: Cabernet Sauvignon

Region: Swan Valley

Drink by: 2025

Date tasted: 24/12/2012

Alcohol:13.5%

From a single vineyard; extended maceration and subsequent French oak maturation has embellished the sweet cassis fruit of the wine; it is no more than medium-bodied, but has very good length.