

FOR THE BOTTOM DRAWER – FABER VINEYARD RICHE SHIRAZ 2012

Ray Jordan, Account Director & highly respected wine critic – according to Ray

Faber winemaker and owner John Griffiths is a tough nut. He is well known as an uncompromising disciplinarian when it comes to making wines. He cuts no corners and follows a strict winemaking regime aimed at extracting the very best from his rich source of Swan Valley fruit.

At the same time he is wanting to wax lyrical about wine which he maintains “should be inspired – crafted with a sense of creating something distinctive and characterful” while winemaking he says “is not an act of manipulation but of allowing the conversion of grapes to wine in such a way as to express the flavours and nature of those grapes.”

His wines represent an awesome statement of the Swan Valley, based on a mix of very old vine fruit for his Reserve shiraz and more recently planted fruit for his Riche shiraz. Both are superb and both will age for many years.

But while you wait for the 2011 Reserve to hit the shelves you can pick up the just released and great value Riche which will happily evolve in your cellar over a dozen or more years. It’s great value and ideal for the Bottom Drawer.



Faber Vineyard Riche shiraz 2012 (\$29.95)

The fruit for this wine comes from the Faber vineyard in the Swan Valley. It’s such a smoothly textured and seamless shiraz in the best style of the Swan Valley. Ripe dark plummy fruit with a liberal influence of oak. The tannins are fine and quite supple.

Intensity builds in the mouth and delivers to a sustained finish. This is a wine that will handle extended cellaring. Plenty of warm alcohol but it handles it very well with the weight of the fruit.

Score: 93/100

Best drinking: 2014 to 2024

Alc: 15%