

REDS



GOLD WINNERS

BUTLER CREST CABERNET SAUVIGNON
2010, \$39 18.5 (Wilyabrup, Margaret River)

NOSE Classic red and dark berry fruits.

PALATE A seamless blend of blackcurrant and cassis. Finishes with ripe tannins and gentle acidity.

DRAKESBROOK WILD BIRD MALBEC
2011, \$30 18.5 (Peel)

NOSE Intense dense plum-skin aroma.

PALATE Big, thick, sweet-fruited and fleshy. Huge plum and rolling tobacco flavours. Great length.

FABER VINEYARD SWAN VALLEY
LIQUEUR MUSCAT, \$58

18.5 (Swan Valley)

NOSE Dried fig, raisin, honey, toffee and oak notes.

PALATE Intense, sweet and powerful yet fresh and vibrant. Finishes clean and lingers for a long time.

JUNIPER CROSSING TEMPRANILLO
2011, \$20 19 (Geographe)

NOSE Young and fresh, with intense jube and liquorice aromas.

PALATE Very sweet black jube flavours backed by firm but not astringent tannins.

This big, flavourful wine was our highest scoring red.

MCHENRY HOHNEN CABERNET MERLOT
2010, \$22 18.5 (Margaret River)

NOSE Blackberry and red-berry fruits.

PALATE Packed with ripe mulberry and chocolate characters. Integrated cedary oak offers complexity, richness and length. Great drinking now, or will cellar comfortably for five-plus years.

MYATTSFIELD MOURVEDRE
2010, \$25 18.5 (Perth Hills)

NOSE Lovely perfume of skins, plums and spice.

PALATE Intense, deep, sweet blueberry and plum flavours. Long and fleshy, with savoury tannins.

X BY XABREGAS SPENCER SYRAH
2010, \$48 18.5 (Great Southern)

NOSE Stood out from the crowd for its intense, lifted and elegant aromas of blueberry and spice.

PALATE Exhibits all the hallmarks of modern shiraz – lighter, more elegant fruit flavours combined with beautifully balanced fruit, tannin, oak and a super length.



MATT BOWNESS

Winemaker, Fairbrossen Estate

Panel leader, cabernet merlot and other red blends

"This was an exciting selection of wines from warm vintages. The cabernet-based blends in particular were stylish wines of intensity and balance, even in their youth. Margaret River again flexed its muscles, with the majority of medal-level wines being from that region. Half of the wines in this class received medals and there were very few faulty wines, illustrating producers' commitment to the careful crafting of their wines to best showcase regional and varietal characteristics."