



INDEPENDENT WINE JOURNALISM
ESTABLISHED MAY 2002

The Wine Front is an independent review site for consumers. It's run by Gary Walsh and Campbell Mattinson. It's updated most days of the year (sad but true) with multiple reviews and comments on wines from Australia and overseas - as they're released. All wines are given a score out of 100 and a 'best drinking' window. All past reviews, articles and comments remain on the site and can be accessed by subscribers. Most of The Wine Front's content is available by Subscription Only. The Wine Front has operated as an independent Subscription Only service since 2002.

FABER VINEYARD PETIT VERDOT 2010

THURSDAY, MAR 1 2012 · POSTED IN **OTHER REDS**, **SWAN VALLEY**
BY GARY WALSH

Fair bit of lift. Ironstone, tar, spice, pencil oak, ripe black fruit. Rich and full with flush and plump tannin, dark chocolate and dark cherry flavour – plenty of tannin and a violet perfume on the finish. Good wine. Interesting.

Rated : 90 Points

Tasted : Mar-12

Alcohol : 13.8%

Price : \$28

Closure : Screwcap

Drink : 2012 - 2017



FABER VINEYARD RESERVE SHIRAZ 2009

MONDAY, FEB 6 2012 · POSTED IN **SHIRAZ ET AL**, **SWAN VALLEY**
BY GARY WALSH

If Campbell does not get round to writing up a vertical of Faber Reserve Shiraz that we did at the winery last April, then I'll do it myself shortly. He's on notice.

Beautiful pencil and vanilla oak, perfume, black fruit, boysenberry, licorice and plenty of those ferrous bits that this vineyard seems to dish up. It's smooth, pliant and full bodied – big but pretty – with palate saturating intensity and earthiness – yet little heat from alcohol. Bold and long with ripe sweeping tannins, firm through the finish. Individuality and class. Bless its little warm to hot climate socks. I rated it 94 points on preview last April, just for the record.

Rated : 95 Points

Tasted : Feb-12

Alcohol : 14.5%

Price : \$54

Closure : Cork

Drink : 2013 - 2022+

FABER VINEYARD DWELLINGUP MALBEC 2009

MONDAY, FEB 6 2012 · POSTED IN [GEOGRAPHE](#), [OTHER REDS](#)
BY GARY WALSH

Malbec – invariably look forward to tasting one.

Ripe banana (oak I assume), spice, blood plum, a little pepper and cedar. Medium weight, strawberry and plum flavours and a good clip of dryish, but attractive, grainy tannin. Some eucalyptus accents but a lovely wine. Reckon it needs a few years.

Rated : 92 Points
Tasted : Feb-12
Alcohol : 13.5%
Price : \$25
Closure : Diam
Drink : 2013 - 2019

FABER VINEYARD DWELLINGUP CHARDONNAY 2010

TUESDAY, JAN 31 2012 · POSTED IN [CHARDONNAY](#), [PEEL](#)
BY GARY WALSH

Progress! Faber Vineyard have a website up at last.

A gentle and melodious wine with flavours of pear, melon and peach, layered with spiced oak and a savoury cut. It's has good flow, unobtrusive acidity, a light glycerol mouthfeel with a touch of textured grip on the finish. There's a little grapefruity refreshment in the mix too. Minor levels of warmth but a charming wine with an affable nature – resisting making a comment about dogs often resembling their owners. Oh. Opps.

Rated : 92 Points
Tasted : Jan12
Alcohol : 13.8%
Price : \$25
Closure : Screwcap
Drink : 2012 - 2016

FABER VINEYARD FRANKLAND RIVER CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2008

WEDNESDAY, JUN 29 2011 · POSTED IN [CABERNET ET AL](#), [FRANKLAND RIVER](#)
BY GARY WALSH

There's a total production of about fifty dozen I believe.

Musk, lavender, roses, dark cherry, savoury Burgundy style oak and a touch of gum leaf – unusually perfumed and an unusual perfume too – almost like a ripasso style wine. Medium weight with the flavours tracking those found on the nose. Lovely texture here - plump silky tannin and perfect acidity – even and balanced. Finish is long too. It's a little non-classical or perhaps even outré in its flavour profile (for Cabernet), but the quality is high. Different too.

Rated : 93 Points
Tasted : Jun11
Alcohol : 13.5%
Price : \$39.95
Closure : Cork
Drink : 2011 - 2018

FABER VINEYARD RICHE SHIRAZ 2009

FRIDAY, JUN 17 2011 · POSTED IN [SHIRAZ ET AL](#), [SWAN VALLEY](#)
BY GARY WALSH

Mattinson and I visited the Swan the other week and a ten vintage vertical of Faber Vineyard Reserve Shiraz was a highlight (in amongst other treasures). He'll be writing that one up I believe, but in the meantime, a review of Faber's 'second wine' which is essentially all the barrels that don't go into the reserve i.e. everything but one or two barrels.

Charismatic and authentic is how it presents. Black fruit, leather, vanilla spice and creamy toasted French oak with some licorice richness. Full bodied, dark and brooding but with flickers of red fruit and spice letting in glimmers of light. There's a little warmth but no heat to speak of, along with an appealing rugged tannic impact and balanced acidity – no jarring or jangling that one might expect to find in a hot climate wine. Flavours of ironstone and mineral carry through to the finish. I've written 93 or 94 at the close of my note – either way it's a top quality wine of considerable character.

Rated : 94 Points

Tasted : Jun11
Alcohol : 15%
Price : \$25
Closure : Screwcap
Drink : 2011 - 2019+

FABER VINEYARD RESERVE SHIRAZ 2008

FRIDAY, MAR 18 2011 · POSTED IN [SWAN VALLEY](#), [SHIRAZ ET AL](#)
BY GARY WALSH

Interestingly, when I put this under my wife's nose, she commented that it was a 'girly style' of Shiraz...and I thought it was brooding and masculine.

Has a bit of perfume for sure – recalling things like lavender, gum leaf and mint – then into black fruit, liquorice and a Montélimar chocolate, to pick one out of the tray. It's full bodied, rich, smooth and thick with some attractive tarry flavours adding interest. Submerged tannins reach out and grip on the finish. Slightly too warm in there, but the fruit and depth provide adequate insulation. A big black style and one I like – the antitheses of cool climate Shiraz.

Rated : 93 Points
Tasted : Feb11
Price : \$51
Closure : Cork
Drink : 2011 - 2018

FABER VINEYARD DWELLINGUP CHARDONNAY 2009

MONDAY, FEB 28 2011 · POSTED IN [GEOGRAPHE](#), [CHARDONNAY](#)
BY GARY WALSH

No website that I can find, but I can tell you I've pretty much liked everything I've tasted from this producer thus far.

Pear, honeydew melon along with tasteful vanilla and cinnamon oak with some of those 'Teddy Bear biscuit' flavours I often taste in Leeuwin Estate Chardonnay. It's gentle and glossy with fine acidity, a little lick of citrine freshness and some savoury lees complexity. Shows a touch of warmth but overall offers a lovely glass of real Chardonnay character. Composed. I've scribbled that it 'cruises like a Cadillac', which seems a strange thing to say, but there you have it. I wrote it.

Rated : 92 Points
Tasted : Feb11
Alcohol : 13.5%
Price : \$25
Closure : Screwcap
Drink : 2011 - 2015

FABER VINEYARD RESERVE SHIRAZ 2007

FRIDAY, MAR 12 2010 · POSTED IN [SWAN VALLEY](#), [SHIRAZ ET AL](#)
BY GARY WALSH

It's due for release May 1 2010. 100% Shiraz. 100% Faber Vineyard, Baskerville. 100% not a hound.
Rich and tarry with bitter chocolate, aniseed, earth, blackberry and prune, but also some fresher raspberry notes. Full bodied with super thickness and mouth satisfaction but it's not tiring or over-whelming. Puts me in mind of the Moorooroo component of Rockford (or something earthily Barossan like that), and for a big wine, the balance is spot on. Length terrific with a nutty tannic aftertaste. Big chewy warm hearted, warm climate wine. Bloody excellent.

Rated : 94 Points
Tasted : Mar10
Alcohol : n/a%
Price : \$50
Closure : Cork
Drink : 2010 – 2017

FABER VINEYARD DWELLINGUP MALBEC 2008

MONDAY, MAR 1 2010 · POSTED IN [PEEL](#), [OTHER REDS](#)
BY GARY WALSH

What GI is [Dwellingup](#) in exactly? I forget, might be Geographe, which is where I have placed it?
Blackberries and red fruits, dried herbs, liquorice, white pepper and earth....mmmmm..individual and very interesting. It's full bodied, very spicy and peppery, saucy almost, with plenty of depth and length. Gives those Argentinians more than a good run for their money. Excellent Malbec.

Rated : 93 Points
Tasted : Mar10
Alcohol : 13.5%
Price : \$32
Closure : Diam
Drink : 2011 - 2017

FABER VINEYARD PETIT VERDOT 2008

MONDAY, MAR 1 2010 · POSTED IN **PEEL, SWAN VALLEY, OTHER REDS**
BY GARY WALSH

I just added 'Swan Valley' into our database to cater for this review. I can't believe!
Has a delightful bay leaf/tobacco/earthiness that may cause the nostrils of the Bordeaux enthusiast to twitch, just ever so gently. There's a pretty violet tinged scent too, along with some juicy raspberry fruit and subtle nutty oak. It's medium bodied with clean fresh fruit flavour and fine supple tannins. Not so much depth and weight, but offers an easy going drinkability and a fair bit of interest - and for that a bonus point (as ever).

Rated : 90 Points
Tasted : Mar10
Alcohol : 14.5%
Price : \$28
Closure : Cork
Drink : 2010 - 2014

FABER VINEYARD FRANKLAND RIVER CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2007

TUESDAY, FEB 23 2010 · POSTED IN **FRANKLAND RIVER, CABERNET ET AL**
BY GARY WALSH

Frankland River is such a good area for Cabernet Sauvignon, as is the Great Southern generally. I can't tell you much about Faber Vineyard other than I have six wines and the first Cab off the rank is bloody good. No website. No bottle images. And I had to google around for a price. I've sent off an email enquiry to the winemaker mind you..although there's little doubt one of our erudite readers will fill me in more quickly.

Blackcurrant/blackberry fruit, and plenty of it, tobacco, positive oak and a minty chocolate perfume (and eucalyptus too - it may seem obvious next to other wines, but not so much on its own). Medium to full bodied and I particularly like the tannins here - fine grained but controlling - mingling with lovely sweet fruit, pulling more savoury and tannic on the long aniseed tinged finish. There's some wines you just really like straight off the bat, and this is definitely one of them.

Rated : 94 Points
Tasted : Feb10
Alcohol : 14%
Price : \$39.95
Closure : Cork
Drink : 2012 – 2020



The Wine Front is an independent review site for consumers. It's run by Gary Walsh and Campbell Mattinson. It's updated most days of the year (sad but true) with multiple reviews and comments on wines from Australia and overseas - as they're released. All wines are given a score out of 100 and a 'best drinking' window. All past reviews, articles and comments remain on the site and can be accessed by subscribers. Most of The Wine Front's content is available by Subscription Only. The Wine Front has operated as an independent Subscription Only service since 2002.
