Cabernet Sauvignon

2020



94 POINTS

Cameron Douglas MS | camdouglasms.com

June 2023

I tasted this wine over 3 days - this was a great idea as it demonstrated the potential for this wine to age, the variety and style to develop and age as well. Aromas of dark plums and blackberry, some black-current then layers of oak with brown spices including vanilla. The natural varietal herbaceous, light tobacco layers begin to unfold within the bouquet though not strong. Some brazil-nut and light reductive flinty quality. Fleshy, salivating mouthfeel gives way to a firm youthful structure from tannins and acidity then flavours of fruits and spices begin to mirror the bouquet. Dry and lengthy, has a soft side as well as a youthful one. Best drinking from 2026 through 2034.

98 POINTS

James Halliday | The Weekend Australian Magazine

June 2023

It takes only a split second for this wine to establish its greatness in the pantheon of cabernet sauvignons grown around the world, pulsating with sweet fruits and a velvety mouthfeel. This is a cabernet sauvignon to melt a pinot noir addict's heart.

5 STARS & 97 POINTS

Aaron Brasher | The Real Review

May 2023

Deep garnet red in the glass, very youthful, inky and opaque. Lovely lifted aromas of cassis, bramble, dried herbs, pencil shavings and nutty oak, wonderfully complex and incredibly evocative. Powerful on the palate, lashings of blackcurrant, mulberry, blackberry and cedar. This is quintessential Margaret River cabernet, not too heavy or angular, just the right amount of sinewy, shapely tannin working superbly with a very pure drive of fruit and delivering fabulous length. Destined for a long and glorious life.Drink: 2023–2043

5 STARS & 96 POINTS

Bob Campbell MW | The Real Review

May 2023

Elegant red that is a benchmark for the variety with red rose petal, cassis, blackberry, cedar wood, cacao nib flavours and a backbone of spicy French oak that adds extra complexity. Accessible but it's almost a shame to drink it before 2030. Drink: 2023-2040

5 STARS

Fergal Gleeson | Great Wine Blog

April 2023

Moss Wood Cabernet Sauvignon 2020 has a delicious pot pourri nose of red and black fruits. This is the eight consecutive Moss Wood Cabernet I've tasted and many features are consistent- depth of flavour, drink ability, medium bodied weight, quality tannins, a bright refreshing finish. Detail! However every release expresses vintage conditions. In the case of 2020 there's extra pepper and spice courtesy of a larger component of Petit Verdot- the final mix is 90% Cabernet, 3% Cab Franc and 7% PV. It's one of just 5 Australian Cabernets rated as 'Exceptional' by Langton's Fine Wine based on provenance and resale value. Moss Wood also has the finesse to enjoy now or in a few decades time.

97 POINTS

Ken Gargett | Wine Pilot

April 2023

One of this country's very best Cabs. Stellar stuff. This latest vintage will do nothing but enhance its reputation. The blend is 90% Cabernet, 3% Cab Franc and 7% Petit Verdot. Inky dark maroon. The nose immediately suggests that this is a wine of finesse and class. We have plums, mulberries, blackcurrants, tobacco leaves, dry herbs and beef stock. Even at this young stage, we see signs of the complexity that will surely follow. A fragrant, balanced Cab of excellent focus, exceptional length and serious grip. The tannins are abundant, but fine. Easily approachable, even at this stage, it will age deceptively well, for at least 15 to 20 years. A cracking Marg River Cab.



98 POINTS

Andrew Caillard | Winepilot.com - The Vintage Journal

April 2023

Medium deep crimson. Beautiful blackcurrant, wax polish, hint panforte aromas with vanilla notes. Classical Margert River Cabernet with fresh blackcurrant, panforte flavours, fine grainy/ cedary tannins, underlying roasted chestnut oak notes and linear fresh acidity. Finishes firm and tight with a fine plume of tannin. This has lovely weight and balance with the perfect structure for aging. Drink 2026 – 2040+

97 POINTS

Angus Hughson | Winepilot.com

April 2023

This 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon is an effortless vintage from Moss Wood, although slightly unusual with 7% Petit Verdot (higher than usual) and 3% Cabernet Franc (lower). It's an old fashiooned claret style, reserved yet precise and focussed. It delivers blackcurrant, violets, red currant and old cedar aromas, French oak relaxed and assured with a mid-weight palate defined by its powerful core of impressive fruit. What I love most is the structure – very fine yet muscular tannins that are beautifully integrated and deliver a finish of extreme length. A classic in the making that is already drinking superbly, Petit Verdot structure adding additional tension that will see this star age extremely well.

95 POINTS

Gary Walsh | The Wine Front

March 2023

Red and black fruit, something of an aniseed pastille thing here too, some floral notes, tobacco, cedar, and baking spice. It's medium-bodied, kind of svelte and evenly weighted, just a little toasty oak, with some black olive and nori savoury elements. the tannin is quiet, and kind of latent, but swish it about in your mouth a bit, and their quality is revealed, especially on the long finish. I think this is going to be a beautiful wine with requisite bottle age, and is likely to rate (even) higher in time. 2027 - 2043 +

99 POINTS

Ray Jordan | Business News

April 2023

Another simply sublime edition of this great wine. The volume of fruit was down almost 60% but the small berry influence has added even more intensity and depth, if that is possible with this wine. Interesting point of difference is that the combination is slightly different from previous vintages with 90% cabernet sauvignon, 3% cabernet franc and 7% petit verdot. The petit verdot certainly brings a darker berry influence with slightly firmer tannins. The aromas are a seductively perfumed with a combination of violet and redcurrant with a subtle black olive and mulberry. But the palate, oh the palate, is simply a joy. Smooth graceful lines with fine chalky tannins supply essential definition and support and harmoniously played oak. At the moment it is quite restrained but with age, a treasure trove of delights will be released. It is a wine destined for even greater things. Extraordinary. Cellar: 30 years

