

2011 HEYTESBURY



The Wine Front
Campbell Mattinson

93+ Points

Flagship Vasse Felix blend of cabernet sauvignon, petit verdot and malbec. Once upon a time the word flagship almost always = heavy-handed oak but nowadays Heytesbury Cabernet is a more balanced affair. This release is much like the 2011 "standard" Vasse Felix cabernet with a little extra fruit-and-tannin grunt. There's more than a passing resemblance between the two. Medium-weight boysenberry, mulberry and blackcurrant flavours with leather, bay leaf and tobacco notes making for a complex impression. Everything's lined up and in order; time is all that is now required. As a wine it doesn't come at you; you have to slow down and meet it in the middle somewhere.

Grape Expectations
Max Crus

9/10

Top of the tree for Vasse, pick the low-hanging fruit while you can. This has your average daily requirement of three fruits.

Drinksbiz NZ - Joelle Thompson

Most Respected

"Vasse Felix is one of the most respected wineries in Western Australia and this blend is an intriguing modern Southern Hemisphere take on the very traditional historic Bordeaux theme. Unconventional, but successfully tasty, it is full bodied, has pronounced smooth grainy tannins and massive depth of mid palate weight - in other words, it drinks beautifully now (if decanted) but definitely needs another decade or two before it reaches its full potential."

Australian Wine Companion - James Halliday

97 Points

"No one can doubt the quality or the longevity of this iconic wine."

The Age Epicure - Ralph Kyte-Powell

96 Points

"Superb top-end Margaret River Cabernet."

The West Australian Wine Guide 2015

Ray Jordan

97 Points

A blend of cabernet sauvignon, petit verdot and malbec. Wonderfully expressive wine from this old vineyard, Beautiful leafy tobacco-like aromatics with an edge of black olive and richer blackcurrant. It's been expertly crafted with fine tannins and superfine oak. Controlled and effortlessly long. A wine that will get better with extended cellaring.

Wine Enthusiast Magazine

Joe Czerwinski

92 Points

This is slightly plusher and more powerful than the similarly excellent 2010 Heytesbury, yet still retains an undeniable sense of finesse. Dried herbs and flowers mark the nose, while the flavors include black cherry, cassis and vanilla. On the finish, lingering fruit persists beyond the soft, mildly drying tannins.

The Wine Companion

Ralph Kyte-Powell

96 Points

A superb example of how Margaret River cabernet blends can rival Bordeaux reds for a fraction of the price. Blackcurrant, briar, dried florals, Asian herbs, tar and leathery aromas have a balanced background of cedary French oak. Intense, super-long, complex and tightly structured, it's a wine of fantastic presence which will live for many more years.

Jancis Robinson.com

Julia Harding MW

Juicy Finish

Much more bright fruit on the nose than in the 2010. Red and black fruit. But then the return to that finesse with the fine dry tannins. More austere on the palate than I expected from the nose but attractively so. Juicy finish as the fruit flows through the structure. Some sweetness on the mid palate. (JH)

Decanter

Sarah Ahmed

Outstanding

Outstanding. Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec from original (1967) vines with a dash of Petit Verdot. Vivid. Drink 2016-2026
