

# 2013 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

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The West Australian  
Ray Jordan

**Toast of the Town - 97 Points**

Now ranked securely among the region's great cabernets. This is clearly one of the finest and shows the continuing focus on refinement and elegance while retaining all that inherent deep power and flavour intensity that is Margaret River cabernet. Strikes a superb oak and fruit balance knitted together with fine-grained oak. A little leaf, a little black olive and some wonderful blackcurrant fruits are so compelling.

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The Keys Report  
Tony Keys

**96 points**

The stylishness of this wine is outstanding. It's gentle on the nose, with smells coming in soft waves, rather than a full-on assault, as some wines present. In the mouth it is pure beauty from first sip to final swallow. It's drinking well now but will cellar for several years if correctly stored. An easy 96 points and it's cheap in its segment.

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Halliday Magazine  
James Halliday

**95 points**

Interesting, very interesting. The colour, the freshness of the aromas and flavours, the finely sculpted tannins and the overall harmony suggest 13.5% alcohol, not 14.5%. All this conjecture, of course, irrelevant: it is the outcome that matters here is a distillation of elegance. (Drink to 2028).

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Tony Love's Top 100 Wines - The Advertiser  
Tony Love

**95 Points**

One of the West's most celebrated producers working with its signature red variety, so expectations are high and met, the art of marrying the sweet crunch of dark berry and the savoury sense of French oak all on show with a faint waft of gum forest to add local pinpoints. Pure dark cherry and blackberry juices drive the palate, which tracks with a sticky to softer tannin coat as you dwell on the finer things in life.

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The Wine Front  
Campbell Mattinson

**94 points**

One of the great 'go to' cabernets out of Margaret River. This release is bang on. It's curranty, it's tannic, it's varietal, it's soft, it's satisfying. You can ask for little more. There's little point defining the ins and out; it's a 'buy', if you're in the market for such things.

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Gourmet Traveller Wine

Huon Hooke

**93 points**

Vasse Felix Winemaker Virginia Willcock is turning out stunning cabernet. Deep, bright, bold colour and spicy black-berry aromas laced with charcuterie and stylish oak. Full-bodied and powerful, intense and bright, with firm, long tannins. Seriously good.

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Sydney Morning Herald

Huon Hooke - Wine of the Week

**93 points**

An excellent young cabernet from one of the region's best wineries, with great ageing potential. Powerful and concentrated.

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The Sunday Times (WA) and Sun Herald (VIC)

Tony Love

**4.5 Stars**

One of WA's most celebrated producers marries the sweet crunch of dark black berry with a French oak sense. Then pure dark cherry juices drive the soft-to-sticky palate.

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Australian Financial Review

Tim White

**95 points**

The '13 Vasse Felix is getting me most excited about the release of the 2013 Tom Cullity Cabernet Sauvignon next year to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Tom Cullity's original Vasse Felix Cabernet Sauvignon plantings.

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WBM Australia

Mike Bennie

**94 points**

Attractive scents of blueberries, faint eucalyptus, leafy things, black currants and mellow, cedary oak. The palate has a plushness but feels trained by soft tannin. It's long in flavour too. A good release of this Margaret River staple, and cellar time will show well in the wine too.

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Drinkster

Philip White

**Tantalising**

Vasse Felix Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2013 is more lithe and sinuous from the start, partly because of its fruit selection, but as much to do, I suspect, with it having a higher percentage of new and younger used barrels. Its appetising whiffs of bergamot and wintergreen are also more concentrated and tantalising. It even has some savory, by which I mean *Satureja hortensis*, the savoury herb that reminds me a little of tarragon.

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Langtons

Langtons

**Excellent**

Vasse Felix made the first Cabernet Sauvignon in Margaret River in 1972 and this wine has been made every year since. It captures varietal character while also articulating the signature of the Wilyabrup sub-region with its mostly gravelly loam soils and sea breezes that cool and lengthen

ripening. Batch-vinification takes place in static and open-fermenters. Some components are given extended maceration lasting up to 35 days on skins. The wine is matured in French oak barriques (of which 40 to 55% are new), for 15 to 18 months. This superb wine shows intense cranberry and blackcurrant aromas, cedary complexity, plenty of fruit sweetness and lacy tannin structure. Many vintages also include small percentages of Malbec, and on rare occasions Merlot, Petit Verdot or Cabernet Franc, to create complexity, balance, buoyancy and freshness.

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The West Australian Wine Guide 2016

Ray Jordan

**96 points**

Such a sophisticated cabernet these days. This one is the complete package. Tobacco leaf, cedar and blackcurrant with just the most subtle hint of black olive on the nose. The palate has a firmish structure based on the controlling influences of grainy tannins and fine grained oak worked with such refined concentrated fruit. Has a minerally chalky finish to the sweet middle palate.

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JamesSuckling.com

Nick Stock

**93 points**

Classic red fruits and chocolate here, boysenberry and bright cassis too. Really upbeat and bright, with a little gravel thread. Super refined palate with smooth and fleshy texture. The tannins spread fine and even and there is plenty of red berry fruit and chocolate through the finish. Really fine. Best from 2019.

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JamesSuckling.com

James Suckling

**93 points**

Aromas of flowers, ripe fruit, and hot stones. Plums too. Full body, very layered and velvety yet always fresh and vibrant. More obvious but in a sexy way. Contrasty and vibrant. Screw cap. Drink now or hold.

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Vinous - Josh Raynolds

Josh Raynolds

**92**

Opaque ruby. Fresh cherry and dark berry aromas are complemented by suggestions of licorice, pipe tobacco and vanilla. Sweet and broad on the palate, offering sappy, concentrated black currant and cherry-vanilla flavors that pick up a smoky nuance with aeration. Closes spicy, smoky and very long, featuring a lingering licorice note and dusty tannins that come in late.

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