



Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Cabernet Sauvignon 2012

Awards

Double Gold	2017 Sakura Wine Awards (JPN)
Gold medal	2017 Japan Wine Challenge (JPN)
Silver medal	2016 Decanter World Wine Awards (UK)
Silver medal	2016 Sommelier Wine Awards (UK)
Silver medal	2015 Decanter World Wine Awards (UK)
Silver medal	2015 International Wine Challenge (UK)
Silver medal	2015 Japan Wine Challenge (JPN)
Silver medal	2014 Decanter Asia Wine Awards (HK)
Silver medal	2014 International Wine & Spirits Competition (UK)

Reviews

Jancis Robinson MW, www.jancisrobinson.com (UK), 02 November 2016

16.5 points

Mid crimson. Sweet, intense, very directed nose. This looks like good value. Open and fully ready. Not that intense but fresh and revitalising. Drink 2015-2018.

Wine Companion (Australia), June 2016

95 points

An elegant, full-bodied cabernet sauvignon with generous fruit, deep colour and fine, lingering tannins. Maturation for 22 months in 60 percent French and 40 percent American oak barriques add complexity and suppleness. Offers excellent cellaring of up to 15 years. What makes this style of cabernet so special? With its cool climate and famous terra rossa soils, Coonawarra produces world-class cabernet. Katnook Estate's cabernet sauvignon epitomises 'classic Coonawarra! Since 1980, Wayne Stehbens has crafted wines from select vineyards to show subtlety, complexity and the region's unique terroir.

Tim Appelt, Wine Discovery website (Australia), 26 February 2016

92 points

Here is a very good Coonawarra Cabernet from the dependable Katnook. The wine is a deep ruby red, with a narrow red rim, with classic Coonawarra aromas of slightly lifted violets, ripe blackberry and black currant, mint, dried herbs and a lightly roasted character, cedar and dry earth. Brisk acidity balances the lingering, fine grained tannins, with a little heat building towards the finish. A very pleasing expression with some good complexity.



Katnook Estate

C O O N A W A R R A

Michael Godel, www.godello.ca (USA), 20 February 2016

Leave it to Katnook to do things the very right way. Yes to dark, rich, ripe and swaddled fruit, no to heat and pomp. It sings and dances, trips across the tongue, slings corporeal fruit and brings cool rain in the form of acidity and tannin. Just right. And it's pretty much ready to go. Drink 2016-2020.

Ralph Kyte Powell, The Age and Sydney Morning Herald (Australia), 5 May 2015

93 points

Contemporary Coonawarra cabernet with black fruit, blackcurrant jam, bitter chocolate and lightly minty characters. Medium bodies well balanced and tangy, it's a wine of excellent regional focus. Ageing – Drink over eight years. Food idea – Lamb ribs

John Lewis, Newcastle Herald (Australia), 23 May 2015

Katnook has long been one of the great standard bearers of Coonawarra cabernet and this one comes from the 31st vintage presided over by master winemaker Wayne Stehbens. The wine shows he is right on song, with its dense dark purple hues and enticing potpourri scents. Weighing in at 13.5 per cent alcohol, it delivers profound ripe mulberry flavour on the front of the palate. Blackberry, herb and mint chocolate fruit characters meld with vanillin oak on the middle palate and persistent berry fruit and earthy tannins combine at the finish. It is widely available in fine wine stores and is one of three Katnook new releases that include the \$20 Katnook 2013 Founder's Block Cabernet Sauvignon and the \$25 Katnook 2014 Sauvignon Blanc. The Katnook, Deakin Estate and Crackerjack wine brands are owned by Spain's giant Freixenet group – the world's largest producer of methode champenoise sparkling wines. \$20 Katnook Estate Cabernet Sauvignon 2012 One of Coonawarra's top producers, this has that immediate approachability that Coonawarra is renowned for yet it could easily lay down for 10 years or so if you're the patient type. Loads of dark fruit and blackcurrant flavours of good concentration, there's also a chocolatey edge to it, and a hint of mint so often prevalent in Coonawarra cabernet. It's soft and round with tangy acidity.

Mike Frost, Courier Mail (Australia), 2 April 2015

94 points

From a warm, dry vintage, this shows rich blackcurrant and cassis fruit and a touch of mint on the nose and full bodied palate, with integrated oak and long firm tannins on the finish. While you could try it now with roast leg of lamb, it will reward long term cellaring.

Mike Bennie, Wine Business Monthly (Australia), 1 April 2015

92 points

Katnook Cabernet has a legion of fans and has fared well with the growing season of 2012. Good for the cellar, but in youth shows with perfume of blue fruits and cedary wood, offering plush, dark berry fruit character to taste with some of the red earth savouriness expected. There's tug of graphite tannins. Finishes with a cooling belt of acidity. It's a solid release, no doubt.

John Rozentals, Illawarra Mercury (Australia), 28 March 2015

This is the 31st vintage of Katnook Cabernet and the product of a dry, warmer than average season. This is shown by the wine's deep colour and full bodied, rich, generously flavoured palate, with great length and a backbone of fine tannins which will certainly help the wine mature for many years.



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Des Houghton, Courier Mail (Australia), March 2015

Splendidly complex with the blackcurrant and mulberry fruit buzzing with earthy Coonawarra tannins. The Katnook Estate cabernet sauvignon is one of only 65 wines listed in the “excellent” category of the Langton’s Classification of Australian Wine.

Peter Chapman, Daily Mercury, Chronicle and Queensland Times (Australia), 25 February 2015

95 points

Another Coonawarra classic from a leading winemaker. Ripe dark red fruits with hints of chocolate and oak. It would suit any special dinner occasion.

Food – Roast lamb

Campbell Mattison, Winefront (Australia), 11 January 2015

94+ points

A commanding performance from Katnook Estate Cabernet Sauvignon. Swagger and substance. It’s not the most elegant wine but it’s lengthy and polished and ripped with fruit and tannin. Blackcurrant, redcurrant, boysenberry and an array of leafy herbs. Excellent release and going places.



Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Cabernet Sauvignon 2011

Reviews

Regan Drew, vinonotebook.com (Australia), 5 August 2015

The middle brother in the Cabernet line-up and for mine, the most elegant at the moment. 40 percent American oak and 60 percent French. Barrel aged for 22 months. Traditional label stands out as timeless. Deep heart of brambles and oak that seems like a yoga-mums mid morning catch up: sweet vanilla, raspberry coconut slice and creamy coffee. Subtle choc/mint that keeps things dancing between body and south. The tannins are grippy and just enough to give definition the black/red fruits wonderfully. Striding easily for the moment, this will move forward in time and then the oak and tannin will stop being the frame and bleed harmoniously into the tableaux.

John Lewis, *Newcastle Herald* (Australia), 11 December 2014

5 Glasses

This excellent red marks the 30th release of Katnook Coonawarra cabernet sauvignon and the bottle sports on attractive updated label. This 2011 30th release wine is garnet-hued and has berry pastille and rosemary aromas. Smooth, ripe blackberry flavour shows on the front of the palate and Maraschino cherry, dark chocolate, mint fruit characters integrate with vanillin oak on the middle palate. Soft earth tannins and lingering berry flavours combine at the finish.

DRINK WITH: beef fillet with porcini and European girolle mushrooms. AGEING: eight years RATING: 5 glasses

Ben Thomas, *The Weekly Review* (Australia), 3 December 2014

4 and a half stars

Classic, complex Coonawarra cabernet 4 ½ stars.

James Halliday, *Australian Wine Companion 2015* (Australia), 30 July 2014

94 Points

Bright hue, especially for '11, matured for 22 months in 60 percent French and 40 percent American oak, which has in no way diminished its varietal expression of cassis, mint and Coonawarra earth; has good length, bolstered by the integrated oak and fine tannins.

Rick Allen, *Manly Daily* (Australia), 11 April 2014

This wine, as the name suggests, marks the 30th release of Katnook cabernet, from the heart of Coonawarra. It's tasty all right. Berry aromas on the nose, the palate is smooth and full with black currant flavours enhanced by cherry and red berries, with some chocolately mint bringing additional complexity. The tannins are soft and supple and the berry flavours linger.

Mike Frost, *Courier Mail* (Australia), 29 November 2013

94 points

The 30th vintage of this Coonawarra red shows rich blackcurrant and mulberry fruit on the nose and palate, with a touch of coffee and integrated oak and fine, firm tannins on the finish. Enjoy it with roast leg of lamb over the next five years or more.





Katnook Estate

C O O N A W A R R A

Canberra Weekly (Australia), 28 November 2013

This month sees the 30th annual release of Katnook Estate Cabernet Sauvignon, this year's wine coming from the 2011 vintage and the first to bear a revamped label based on one the company used back in the 1980s. Available at selected Vintage Collars and Dan Murphy stores, or online at www.katnookestate.com.au, this is a wine worth searching out, particularly as it's one of just 38 listed as "Distinguished" in Langton's V Classification of Australian Wine. From a vintage highlighted by above average summer rains that called for extra drive in vineyard management and fruit selection, it's a wine generous with fruit favours, finely grained tannins and underlying mocha note, worth the \$40 for special occasion dining.

Kevin Ecock, Free Running Wine Blog with Kevin Ecock (Australia), 25 November 2013

Great potential in this wine. Elegant, understand, fruit forward, very young but not very tight, excellent structure and superb finish.

Peter Chapman, Daily Mercury, Chronicle, Morning Bulletin and North (Australia), 13 November 2013

94 points

One of the signature wines from this respected wine market and it once again delivers with oodles of rich ripe dark berry flavours. Hints of chocolate, toasty oak and spices. Great to cellar. FOOD: Roast Pork

www.webwombat (Australia), 12 November 2013

During November we will see the release of the 30th annual Katnook Estate Cabernet Sauvignon. This wine comes from the 2011 vintage and will be the first to carry a label on a redesign of one first used back in the 1980's. This vintage is listed as *Distinguished* in Langton's V Classification of Australian Wine, one of only 38 so listed. The wine is lavish with fruit flavours, under tones of mocha and finely grained tannins as the grapes experienced above average summer rains that required extra drive in fruit selection and vineyard management. At \$40, consider this one, for that *special occasion* during.

Kerry Skinner, Illawarra Mercury (Australia), 2 November 2013

Katnook has gone back in time by releasing the 30th vintage of its iconic Estate cabernet sauvignon using similar labels to those earliest wines. That said it's from the difficult 2011 vintage but its pedigree still shines through with layers of black fruit, chocolate, spice and savoury characters after 30 months in quality oak.

Gary Walsh, Winefront (Australia), 14 August 2013

Peppery, blackcurrant, nougat oak, perfume. Medium weight ... may surprise with age. Solid.





Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Cabernet Sauvignon 2010

Awards

- Silver medal 2013 Decanter Asia Wine Awards (HK)
 - Silver medal 2013 International Wine & Spirits Competition (UK)
 - Silver medal 2013 International Wine Challenge (UK)
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Reviews

Mike Bennie, *Australian Gourmet Traveller Wine* (Australia), 1 July 2014

Bright berry fruits of blueberry, light mulberry and cassis combine with elegant floral and savour notes, hints of pepper and tomato leaf. The well-layered palate shows blackcurrant and plum and subtle oak maturation flavours of vanilla, nougat and spice.

Lisa Perrotti-Brown, *eRobertParker.com* (USA), February 2014

91 points

Deep garnet-purple in colour and loaded with chocolate mint and cassis alongside nuances of violets and warm blackberries, the medium to full-bodied 2010 Katnook Estate Cabernet Sauvignon is rich and ripe with a vibrant backbone of acidity and medium-firm tannins. It finishes long. Drink it now to 2020+.

Winestate (Australia), 1 December 2013

Oak dominates the ripe blackberry fruit nose which is echoed on the well-structured palate. Great flavour length.

Kevin Ecock, *Free Running Wine Blog with Kevin Ecock* (Australia), 25 November 2013

Opens well, very 'obvious', light toffee in minted berries, very soft style on palate, immense but gentle structure, approachable throughout to a long finish.

Huon Hooke, *Sydney Morning Herald* (Australia), 15 October 2013

94 points

A top vintage for this wine, showing a bright, youthful red-purple hue and a fresh aroma of peppermint, star-anise and dark berries. It's elegantly weighted and the mint is refreshing. The tannins are firm and age worthy, the palate energetic and bright with masses of fruit. Best 2015 to 2040.

Gary Walsh, *Winefront* (Australia), 14 August 2013

90+ points

Nougat oak, blackberry, blackcurrant. Fleeshy, muscular tannin, plenty of oak and extract. Decent length. Needs quite some time.



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James Halliday, *Australian Wine Companion* (Australia), 26 July 2013

95 points

The freshness of the '10 vintage is easy to see within this wine with fresh blackcurrant and red fruit aromas, black olive and finely tuned oak handling; the palate is full-bodied, and whilst impressive in concentration, and revealing plenty of oak and tannin, there is a light touch and freshness that continues from start to finish without hesitation.

Sam Dowdy, *Penola Pennant* (Australia), 10 July 2013

Katnook Estate cabernet sauvignon declared top drinking wine from outstanding vintage. Katnook Estate's cabernet sauvignon 2010 was named best of the best in a publication by renowned Western Australian wine journalist, Ray Jordan. The Coonawarra Winery's cabernet sauvignon was one of 500 current-drinking red wines judged as part of this year's annual Great Red Tasting for The West Australia. No only did the Coonawarra wine make the top 100 reds list, it ranked first ahead of Grant Burge Filsell old vine shiraz. Mr Jordan said the tasting provided compelling proof that vintage really does matter. "The reality is that the very wet, cool conditions resulted in wines that, in the main, lacked weight and fruit intensity", he said. "On the other hand, wines from the glorious 2010 vintage, especially in South Australia, were stunning." "Early indications are that the 2012 vintage may well be even better." Katnook Estate winemaker Wayne Stehbens said the 2010 Coonawarra vintage is highly regarded. "I think it's great that a Coonawarra cabernet has been recognised, it's pleasing it's ours, but I think it's a positive for the whole region," he said. "It's great to know that wines from our region are competitive with wines from Western Australia's Margaret River and other iconic Australian wine regions. "It's pleasing to know that even in a good vintage Australian-wide, like 2010 Coonawarra wines will stand up and compete with the best from a great vintage." Mr Stehbens said sales of the 2010 Katnook Estate cabernet sauvignon had increased since the article was published, particularly in Western Australia. "Consumers have been buying our wine based on that article, and if they like it they're likely to explore other Coonawarra wines" he said. "I think customers put more faith in the independent endorsement of products, like this article."

Ray Jordan, *Ray Jordan's Top 100 Reds* (Australia), 27 June 2013

96 points – Best Wine

The title of best wine of the tasting went to the fabulous Katnook Estate cabernet sauvignon 2010. When Coonawarra has a great year its cabernets are hard to beat and 2010 is recognised as one of the greatest vintages. The Katnook captures this admirably. Great year for cabernet and this is one of the finest examples. So immensely powerful yet with typical Coonawarra finesse and elegance. Deep and rich with lavish texture coming from the ripe fruit and use of predominantly French oak with a little dab of American. Ripe tannins and fine-grained oak feature prominently. There is some typical Coonawarra mint on the nose working with the red berry characters. Will handle extended cellaring.

John Fordham, *Highlife Magazine* (Australia), June 2013

It helps your chances of producing some cracking wines when your winemaker has been on the job since the very first vintage. That's the influence Wayne Stehbens has wielded at Coonawarra since 1979. Cabernet sauvignon is Coonawarra's prince of grapes and vintage 2010 was a triumphant success – factors that enabled Stehbens to craft an intensely-flavoured red with extraordinary length and finesse.

Tyson Stelzer, *WBM* (Australia), 1 June 2013

Goodness. Is this the most refined Katnook Cabernet yet? It's fragrant, refined, finely texture and eminently ageworthy. Has Wayne Stehbens found his feminine side, or has 2010 simply played into his hands? Either way, I adore it.



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John Lewis, Newcastle Herald (Australia), 20 April 2013

4.5 out of 5

Katnook has long been one of Coonawarra's premier cabernet sauvignon producers and that standing is reinforced in this 13.5 per cent alcohol, purple-tinted crimson charmer. It has scents of berry pastille and rose petals and brings intense mulberry flavour to the front of the palate. Maraschino cherry, coffee cream chocolate and anise fruit characters, meld with nutty oak on the middle palate and smooth earthy tannins and persistent berry fruit combine at the finish.

4.5 out of 5.

Rick Allen, Manly Daily (Australia), 12 April 2013

A good wine, this. It's from one of Coonawarra's leading producers and from what is regarded as a very strong vintage, so all the pointers are good. It has deep blackcurrant flavours that are enhanced by some plummy complexity. There's also some layered flavours that play a supporting role, the trademark Coonawarra mint, and some toasty characters from the oak. Its good drink, but if you're prepared to cellar, you'll be handsomely rewarded.

Andrew Graham, Oz Wine Review Website (Australia), 1 April 2013

Notably darkly coloured, this has a very sweet, oak-and-more-oak nose with a palate that too is oakalicious, warm hearted and luscious. Beyond the oak is rich dark chocolate edged fruit, even if that fruit is hidden at this stage. Tannins look softened and creamy too.

Ray Jordan, The Weekend West (Australia), 23 March 2013

96 points

One of the best names in Coonawarra cabernet and one of the finest examples of a great year for cabernet. Immensely powerful yet with typical Coonawarra finesse and elegance. Deep and rich, with lavish texture coming from the rip fruit and predominantly French oak with a little dab of American. Will handle extended cellaring.

Chris Channahon, Canberra Times (Australia), 13 March 2013

Katnook Estate, Coonawarra's second largest vineyard owner after Treasury Wine Estates, is part of Wingara Wine Group, owned by Spain's Freixinet. Despite changes of ownership, however, Wayne Stehbins remains winemaker after 30-odd years. In 2010 he made the best cabernet I've seen from the estate in several years. Its Coonawarra cabernet as it should be – fully ripe, with precise, black-olive varietal aromas and flavours and sufficient flesh on the mid-palate to carry the firm but fine tannins inherent to the variety. It should drink well over the next 10 years.

Lindsay Saunders, Tweed Sun (Australia), 28 February 2013

Hailing from SA's Coonawarra region, famous for its cab sauvs, and from a label that's never lets us down, we were eagerly anticipating this red. And we'd be telling porkies if we said that the fact this is from Katnook's upper echelons wasn't adding to that anticipation. Forty bucks for a bottle of plonk is an outlay few of us would do very often, sadly, so "is this worth the money?" has to be a prime question put to this red. The answer is yes. This is not a red to knock the top off, splash in a dirty glass and quaff with a pizza, oh no, no, no. At the risk of sounding like complete wine tossers, this is a red to savour, to linger over, to take to enjoy and to ponder. Yes, ponder. In fact, we found it impossible to do anything less with it. Deep red, almost purple-black in appearance with a spicy, dark berry nose, intense dark fruits on the palate and long, dry yet lively finish, it's cab sauv at its very best. It's a wine to give as a special gift (the good folk at Katnook say it'll be at its best in 2015) or to mark something important or, indeed, as a treat that'll be hard to beat for red drinkers. While we enjoyed this by itself (over several nights) this would work sensationally with a carefully roasted joint of lamb or beef with roasted veg.

Kerry Skinner, Illawarra Mercury (Australia), 23 February 2013



Katnook Estate

C O O N A W A R R A

The 2010 Coonawarra vintage was regarded as one of the best on record. The proof is in this sumptuous, sexy cabernet sauvignon. Stylish, yet robust, layers of black and plum fruit, minty characters, silky tannins, polished and poised after 22 months in mainly French oak.

David Ellis, Western Advocate (Australia), 23 February 2013

Katnook Estate's 2010 Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon is a wine that's richly reflective of the great 2010 vintage, one that's often described as being among the region's best-ever, with near ideal weather conditions that included below average rainfall and above average temperatures. The beautifully intense blackberry and mulberry aromas, generous pre-fruit flavours, finely grained tannins and underlying mocha notes make it a great buy at \$40 in fact; Langton's Wine Auction has described it as "an outstanding Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon with excellent fruit definition and tannin maturity. Enjoy it with slow-baked beef ribs accompanied by a pepper-corn or fresh mushroom sauce.

Jancis Robinson MW, www.jancisrobinson.com (UK), 22 February 2013

16+

Dark crimson. Light nose and nicely balanced, lightly minty. Cabernet fruit. All very restrained! Fine tannins lurk. Perhaps it just needs a little more time to unfurl and express itself.

Mike Frost, Courier Mail (Australia), 22 February 2013

94 points

From an excellent Coonawarra vintage, this red shows blackcurrant, mulberry and cassis characters, with some toasty oak and fine persistent tannins on the finish. You could try it now with roast leg of lamb, but it deserves at least another five years in the cellar and will probably be at its peak in about 10 years.

Winsor Dobbin, Sunday Examiner (Australia), 17 February 2013

A classic Coonawarra cabernet from a superb vintage from winemaker Wayne Stehbins, who has twice won the Jimmy Watson trophy. Expectations were high and met by this superb and relatively affordable wine that can confidently be cellared for decade or more. Intense, purse cleverly constructed, this has immediate appeal with its bright blackcurrant notes, but also the tannin structure, quality oak and length to go the long haul. Impressive.

Patrick Haddock, Wining Porn Blog, (Australia), 1 February 2013

92 points

Stellar conditions created excellent quality in 2010. Cassis and all spice cloaked in vanillin oak, hints of mulberry and briar and a touch of spearmint. Intense dark fruit palate, textured and concentrated with a spicy edge, cedary oak plays its part alongside slightly granular tannins and a long, lively finish. Nicely balanced wine and if you like Coonawarra Cabernet this is an excellent example.

Gary Walsh, The Winefront (Australia), 17 January 2013

90 points

Mixed berries, mint, nuts and coconut/ nougat/ coffee oak, and while apparently on 10 percent of it is new, it sits up quite prominently. Its medium bodies and fresh, with fine grained tannins and a pretty good finish. Drink 2014 – 2020

David Lawrason, National Post Website, 15 January 2013

The moderate climate of Coonawarra is the heartland of great Aussie cabernet, with Katnook Estate 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon being a fine example indeed – excellent structure for the money.

Nick's Wine Merchants Website (Australia), 15 January 2013



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COONAWARRA

An Outstanding Coonawarra Cabernet – Katnook Estate back to it's best. The 2010 Katnook was matured for 22 months in oak, barriques of which 40 percent were new and predominately French whilst the remaining 60 percent were second use being a combination of French and American barriques. Totally opaque black crimson colour with black crimson hue. Nosing offers up scents of blackcurrant, dark chocolate, vanillin cedar, a hint of mint and space showing very good intensity. Medium to full bodies and beautifully textured the palate delivers a gorgeous perfectly ripened fruit profile of blackcurrant, choc mint, cedar and spice. Velvet smooth tannins with long blackcurrant, dark chocolate and spicy cedar aftertaste.

Decanter Asia Wine Awards (Hong Kong), 2013

Big minty, herbal fruits a little eucalyptus. Cassis, spice aromas, uplifted by a leafy, earthy background.



Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Cabernet Sauvignon 2009

Awards

Silver Outstanding medal	2012 International Wine & Spirits Competition (UK)
Silver medal	2012 Decanter Asia Wine Awards (Hong Kong)
Silver medal	2012 Japan Wine Challenge (Japan)

Reviews

Huon Hooke, Hooked on Wine (Australia), 15 October 2013

94 points

A top vintage for this wine, showing a bright, youthful red-purple hue and a fresh aroma of peppermint, star-anise and dark berries. It's elegantly weighted and the mint is refreshing. The tannins are firm and ageworthy, the palate energetic and bright with masses of fruit. Best 2015 to 2040. 13.5 per cent alcohol.

Lisa Perrotti Brown, The Wine Advocate US - Robert Parker (USA), April 2012

Deep garnet-purple in colour, the 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon offers notes of cassis, blackberries and dried mint with touches of cinnamon stick and toast. Medium to full bodies with a good concentration of flavour supported by a medium to high level of grainy tannins and refreshing acid, it finishes long. Drink this one now to 2017+.

James Halliday, www.winecompanion.com.au (Australia), January 2012

90 points

The oak contribution from 18 months in 35 percent new French oak is very obvious, but there is enough cassis/ black currant/ earth fruit, plus good tannins to ultimately provide balance. Screwcap. 13.5 percent alc.

Gary Walsh, The Winefront (Australia), December 2011

93 points

Mixed berries and blackcurrant, tobacco and mint with coffee nougat oak riding high. It's medium weight, with a drily tannic presence – the shape and structure of it is, you'd have to say, excellent. Has a lithe, yet masculine appeal. A good release from Katnook. Should cellar well. Tasted December 11.





Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Cabernet Sauvignon 2008

Reviews

James Halliday, *Australian Wine Companion (Australia) 2012*

94 points

An altogether elegant wine, notwithstanding the cedar/cigar box thumbprint of 22 months in French and American oak; the medium-bodied palate has perfectly ripened cassis – accented fruit, the tannins are fine, the finish long. Cellar to 2020.

Tyson Stelzer, *WBM National (Australia) 1 July 2012*

The savoury, understated vintage has produced a Katnook of prominent structure, scaffolded a round firm, finely textured tannins. Blackcurrant and mulberry fruit coast below the surface promising great things in a decade.

Jeremy Oliver, *The Australian Wine Annual 2011 (Australia)*

Sweetly fruited and lightly oaked bouquet of bramble, baked blackberries and plums underpinned by suggestions of currants and raisins. Finely structured and elegant, with a fine spine of crunchy tannins supporting its brambly presence of cassis, blackberries and plums.

Andrew Callard MW, *Langton's website (Australia). August 2011*

92 points

Deep colour. Fresh blueberry/ black cherry aromas – touch of rhubarb. Dark cherry. Musky plum/ black cherry flavours, fine chalky dry tannins, good concentration and flavour length. 2013-2022.

Ray Jordan, *The West Australian (Australia), 7 July 2011*

Power and finesse with a sublime degree of elegance. It is so young, yet already you can see that it is going to be a Coonawarra classic. Red berry and a touch of leafy tobacco and subtle mint. Beautifully present and one of the best from winemaker Wayne Stehbens.

National Liquor News (Australia), December 2010

Subtle sweet chocolately notes with intense fruit flavours.

John Lewis, *Newcastle Herald (Australia), 1 December 2010*

Katnook's senior winemaker Wayne Stehbens believes his 2008 Coonawarra reds are comparable to those of the great 1998 vintage and this classy cabernet sauvignon supports that view. It is deep purple in the glass and has cassis and herb aromas. Profound blackcurrant flavour comes through on the front of the palate and cherry, dark chocolate and mint fruit characters integrate with spicy oak on the middle palate. Smooth dusty tannins show at the finish.

DRINK WITH: Veal Marengo, pork fillet with herbed sweet potato mash or rack of lamb with rosemary stuffing and mint sauce. AGEING: 10 years.





Katnook Estate

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Winestate Magazine (Australia), November/December 2010

Clean plum/red berry style with pleasant earthy characters developing.

Kerry Skinner, Illawarra Mercury (Australia), 4 November 2010

When the influential Langton's Classification of Australian Wines was released last month the Katnook Estate cabernet was rewarded with a "distinguished" rating. This new release is certainly distinguished and classy, matured in quality oak for 22 months, it's seamless and poised, lashings of black berry fruit, chocolate and a hint of mint silky smooth tannins.

Campbell Mattinson, Winefront Monthly (Australia), 22 October 2010

94 points

Katnook Estate cabernet is matured for 22 months in both French and American oak – but this 2008 version is far more fruit driven than many of its past releases. It's a sea of medium-weight blackcurrant. You'd almost call this a "Claret style", though it's fresher and bolder and indeed fruitier than that. Toast, mulberries, dark olives too. A good tug of tannin. Noticeable persistence. Excellent style of wine. Drink: 2014 – 2022.



Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Cabernet Sauvignon 2006

Awards

Gold medal 2010 Hong Kong International Wine & Spirits Competition (Hong Kong)
Silver medal 2010 Japan Wine Challenge (Japan)

Reviews

James Halliday, Australian Wine Compendium 2011 (Australia)

93 points

Cellar to 2020.

David Lawrason, Wine Align (Canada), February 2011

91 points

Coonawarra is the cabernet capital of Australia centred on a remote patch of iron-rich red clay terra rosa soil that sits on a limestone shelf. The wines usually have gutsy intensity and vibrancy. This fine example shows a nicely lifted nose of blackcurrant, mint/rosemary, leather and cedar. It is full bodied, dense, sinewy yet even. Nicely focused and very persistent. Just coming into peak, should please through much of this decade. Tasted February 2011.

Rob Geddes MW, Australian Wine Vintages 27th Edition (Australia) 2010

4 stars

This is a generous, rich style with a powerhouse of oak providing a counterpoint to the regional cool climate character, 4 stars – outstanding quality, intensity and length of flavour.

Peter Bourne, Australian Gourmet Traveller Wine (Australia) July 2010

Shows maturity and suppleness. Sumptuous sweet fruit and dried herbs. Mulberry and boysenberry flavours give good fruit weight, integrated with nice tannins. Good length. It is as a few years in front of it still.

Australian Gourmet Traveller Wine (Australia) June/July 2010

4 stars

Shows maturity and suppleness. Sumptuous sweet fruit and dried herbs, mulberry and boysenberry flavours give good fruit weight, integrated with nice tannins. Good length. It still has a few years in front of it. Star performer – 4 stars.

Top 100 - Australian Gourmet Traveller Wine (Australia), March 2010

90 points, 4 stars

Smooth, elegant, medium-bodied and savoury, it finishes with lots of fine, persistent tannins. 90 points, 4 stars.



Katnook Estate

C O O N A W A R R A

Campbell Mattinson and Gary Walsh, The Big Red Wine Book 2009/10 (Australia)

94 points

What a thing of beauty this is. OK, so there's a slab of coffeed, toasty oak but, applied to this season's serve of a high-grade regional cabernet grapes, this has resulted in a flavour not unlike roasted nuts – a very good thing. It has class and substance and a good juicy finish. It's a big style for a cab of this region, but it's a really good rendition of it. DRINK: 2012-2018.

Peter Forrestal, Sunday Times (Australia), 15 November 2009

One of the best and it will age beautifully.

David Ellis, Regional Australian news (Australia), 30 July 2009

Senior winemaker at Coonawarra's Katnook Estate, Wayne Stehbens was being pretty modest when he said 2006 was such a great vintage that wines that came out of it were almost self made. He should mention also that he has a more-than average handle on the place: he has been making wine there for Katnook for 30 years. The 2006 vintage in Coonawarra was a very early one with slightly above-average temperatures during summer and extending into the ripening period, so that the low yielding vines had loads of flavour. Wayne's 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon is one of his best elegant and generously flavoured with rich dark berry, sweet oak and fine grained tannins. Pay \$40 and enjoy with prime rib and a Bordelaise sauce whose peppercorn, shallot thyme flavours will match his wine perfectly.

Fergus McGhie, Canberra Times (Australia), 29 July 2009

5 stars

For a long as I can remember, the Katnook cabernet has been one of my favourite wines from Coonawarra. It's often a bigger style than some of its neighbours, but this just means we need to be more patient with it. The '06 is lovely – leafy cabernet aromas to begin, then a dense palate of blackberries and blueberries takes over. Leave it another 10 years if you can resist. 5 stars.

Kerry Skinner, Illawarra Mercury (Australia), 29 July 2009

You'll be hard pressed to find a better example of quality cabernet than this ripper from the heart of Coonawarra where the variety thrives. It's crafted by Wayne Stehbens, who's celebrating his 30th year of winemaking. It's a cracking red, bold and brooding with blackberry and plum fruit flavours, a touch of mint, chocolate characters, clever oaking and fine, silky tannins. Drink it with herb-crusted leg of lamb.

Campbell Mattinson, Winefront Monthly (Australia), 15 July 2009

93 points

Modestly oaked and nicely balanced. It tastes deliciously of roasted nuts and juicy blackcurrant and it flows excellently through the mouth. The tannin attack starts early, but neither overwhelms nor tires. Coffeed, grainy, currently aftertaste with a modestly creamy feel. Lovely Coonawarra cabernet. Could probably have done with an ounce more fruit power – or a gram perhaps – but it's excellent overall. Drink 2012-2018.



Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Cabernet Sauvignon 2005

Awards

Gold medal 2009 Korea Wine Challenge (Korea)

Reviews

Clive Platman, Birmingham Plus (UK), 3 March 2010

Mint, eucalyptus and blackcurrant flavours, wrapped up in a pleasing soft structure and lingering fruit.

Michael Broadbent, Decanter Magazine (UK), February 2010

Extremely good: fairly deep, intense, youthful appearance: a fragrant yet immature, slightly minty nose, good fruit; an attractive mouthful, it finishes dry but not too tannic.

Campbell Mattinson and Gary Walsh, The Big Red Wine Book 2009/10 (Australia)

92 points

Classic Coonawarra and a wine that will cellar well over the medium term. It tastes of pencils, blackcurrant, chocolate and dust and, while it drinks well from the moment you open it, it tastes far better given a few hours in the decanter. Lots of ripe, grapey, integrated tannin and, yes, a bit too much acid tang, like a shirt that hasn't been properly tucked in. An excellent wine, though. Drink 2011-2015.

Jeremy Oliver, The Australian Wine Annual 2009 (Australia)

91 points – 3 stars

An elegant, focused and fine grained cabernet show intense cassis, mulberry, plum and blackberry flavours are carefully integrated with cedar/vanilla/dark chocolate oak and supported by fine, tight knit tannins. Scented with violets, it's smooth, seamless and briary, with a suggestion of highly herbal complexity.

Sarah Ahmed, The Wine Detective (UK), 3 November 2009

Bright, deep cassis hue. The nose shows lots of sweet vanillin oak, behind which lurks cassis and ripe plum and chocolate. Very fine powdery tannins, with glossy chocolate edged cassis and succulent, juicy plum provide nice balancing freshness. The finish is quite oaky (vanillin) and a little angular (acidity) at the moment it needs a bit of time for the fruit to come up. On day 2 it's getting there, showing more mulberry and balsamic and the oak has blown off. Lots of promise.

James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion 2010 (Australia), August 2009

94 points

Medium red-purple; a wine strongly shaped by over two years in predominantly French oak barriques that have imparted a cedary/spicy overlay to the perfectly ripened blackcurrant fruit; good line and length. Cellar to 2020.

saq.com (Canada), 1 April 2009

Exuberant nose of eucalyptus, roasting, liquorice, ripe black fruits and wood.

Dan Kislenco, Hamilton Times (Canada), 8 February 2009

I also loved Katnook Estate 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon, from the tiny Coonawarra area. It's stylish and elegant, fragrant with cassis, strawberry and blackberry. There's still a bit of the 2004 vintage (for sale) which is also excellent.



Katnook Estate

C O O N A W A R R A

Peter Forrestal, Australian Gourmet Traveller Wine (Australia), February/March 2009

Winemaker Wayne Stehbens has been at Katnook for 30 years and for more than a decade the Katnook Estate Cabernet has been among the best red produced in the region. I see the Katnook Estate as the essence of Coonawarra in 2005: powerful, weighty, concentrated and deep with pure blackcurrant flavours balanced and seamless.

www.armadalecellars.com.au (Australia), October 2008

Aromas of cassis, blackberry, dust, dark mint chocolate, nutmeg and spice backed with coffee bean and vanilla oak. Big and rich. On the palate full bodied... no mucking about here. It has flavours of rich blackberry, cassis, dark chocolate and again that attractive coffee vanilla bean oak. Plenty of ripe mouth coating fine grained tannin and a sustained savoury blackberry and coffee finish. This is a monster Cabernet that requires patience. (Which of course is a virtue) and something else I can't quite remember about good things coming.

Campbell Mattinson, Winefront Monthly (Australia), 20 October 2008

92 points.

Classic Coonawarra. Tastes of pencils, blackcurrant, chocolate and dust, and while it drinks well from the moment you screw it open it tastes far better given a few hours in the decanter. Lots of ripe, grapey, integrated tannin and while there is a tad too much acid for my liking (a common problem in Coonawarra cabernet) the wine has the overall flavour and elegance to ride it through. Excellent drink. And one that will cellar very well medium term.

Jeff Collerson, Sydney Daily Telegraph (Australia), 14 October 2008

Katnook Estate, among Coonawarra's leading producers, has made cabernet sauvignon since 1980. This is true to style, elegant and savoury rather than a blockbuster with powerhouse fruit flavours. The bouquet has green olive and mint elements. Medium bodied but with solid sweet cassis fruit on a firm, drying palate.

Peter Forrestal, The Sunday Times (Australia), 6 October 2008

Good value considering its quality: powerful, weighty, concentrated and deep, with pure blackcurrant flavours. Balanced and seamless.

National Liquor News (Australia), September 2008

Cabernet Sauvignon has been released with talk of it being named alongside the best under this label. Epitomising classic Coonawarra, each vintage of this wine has been made by long time winemaker Wayne Stehbens, who has called this vintage a standout example of both this wine and Coonawarra Cabernet. "The region has all the right ingredients and Katnook Estate has all the right resources to capture the extraordinary flavours of the variety," he said.

David Ellis, Regional newspapers (Australia), September 2008

Katnook Estate Cabernet Sauvignon is another classic that's been around a long time (since 1980). The 2005 reflects everything that's great about Coonawarra. Several vineyards contributed to this wine. It has beautifully concentrated fruit flavours and fine tannins. Pay \$40 and share it with friends over a slab of high cocoa, bittersweet chocolate.

Kerry Skinner, Illawarra Mercury (Australia), 3 September 2008

Another year, another classic Coonawarra cabernet sauvignon crafted by the astute winemaker Wayne Stehbens. From an excellent vintage it's a smart wine indeed, textured and cleverly oaked with layers of sweet black berry and plum fruit on the nose and palate, a dab of chocolate and silky tannins. Drink it with herb crusted rack of lamb.

Chris Shanahan, Canberra Times (Australia), 8 August 2008

Katnook's Coonawarra cabernets are superb representations of the variety and region. The 2005 needs time to settle down, but you can see juicy blackcurrant and ripe kalamata-olive flavours. Tannins are dry and firm, so more time will see the '05 blossom into another great Coonawarra cabernet.



Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Cabernet Sauvignon 2004

Reviews

Fergus McGhie, Canberra Times (Australia)

5 stars

This is the 25th vintage of the Katnook Cabernet Sauvignon. The experience and fine pedigree show in a seamless expression of Coonawarra cabernet. Dried leaf and blackcurrant aromas follow through on to the palate, which is ripe and full, with more juicy blackcurrant and cedary oak flavours. The tannins are silky smooth and dry, and will hold this classic Coonawarra cabernet in good condition for the next decade at least. 5 stars.

Campbell Mattison, The Wine Front (Australia)

92 points

This isn't classic Coonawarra. It's big framed, big muscled, bulging Coonawarra, wide flanks of chocolately fruit-and-oak making a mouth-filling impression. It won't be to everyone's taste, but the quality is undeniable. It also rings long. Cassis, chocolate, raspberry, cloves, fruit-spice and lively acidity. Quite a bit of tannin, but woven through the wine – assertive, but seamless. It has the goods to age long term, but I suspect that it will be best as a medium-term wine. I'd drink it in 6-8 year's time. Drink: 2012-2018.

WBM (Australia)

Dependable, classic, sophisticated and understated. Suits the profile of the brand. Cigar box, spearmint and cedar aromas. A good expression of the variety.

Tony Harper, Brisbane News (Australia)

Promising to be even better with time, the 2004 was very fresh, slightly leafy, elegant, but layered, long and structured.

Rick Allen, Ciao Magazine (Australia)

The 2004 vintage from Coonawarra, which is on the shelves now, is an absolute cracker. How good? Extremely ... typical layers of dark fruit and earthy, mulberry flavours.

Jancis Robinson, MW (UK)

17.5 points

Aromatic and rather fine-boned for an Australian red. Broad on the palate with lots of interesting palate impact. Some asphalt, some prunes. Well balanced. Racy and refreshing. 17.5 points.

Chris Shanahan, Sunday Canberra Times (Australia)

It might seem too good to be true but until the late 70s you could buy bulk Coonawarra cabernet from the Katnook property for home bottling. Manager Ray Stehbens shipped significant numbers of 25litre containers to Canberra. But 1980 marked the birth of Katnook Estate's Cabernet Sauvignon label and the beginning of the end of bulk shipments. A quarter of a century on, Wayne Stehbens, Ray's son, makes the wines at Katnook, including this 25th vintage. It's very soft and approachable now for cabernet. But it has the usual clear varietal definition and the concentration to evolve well for another 10 years.





Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Liquorwatch (Australia)

The 25th vintage release of Katnook Estate's Cabernet Sauvignon proves Katnook still creates a classic, timeless Coonawarra red. Aromas of ripe plum and dusty mulberry dominate, complemented by savoury dark berry and vanillin and chocolate oak maturation notes on the palate. The wine is perfect on its own or with food, and represents an icon of the Coonawarra region.

Franz Scheurer, Australian Gourmet Pages (Australia)

A hero from Coonawarra, displaying the terra rossa terror perfectly. Bottled under screw cap this wine will last for a few years (they recommend up to 2018) but it is really quite approachable now. It's full of dusty black berries (mainly plum and mulberries) on the front palate held together by sweet vanilla oak flavours and a firm and lasting tannin. It finishes long and dry with lots of savoury, forest floor attributes. A terrific example of Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon!

Gary Walsh, Winefront (Australia) 14 August 2013

Blackcurrant, perfumed, tobacco, cooler year, but with finesse. Nougat oak. Fresh and clean, fine lines and tannin – shapely, leaner style, but long. Tobacco and toasty finish. Very nice.

Jeremy Oliver, The Australian Wine Annual (Australia) 2009

An elegant, focused and fine-grained cabernet whose intense cassis, mulberry, plum and blackberry flavours are carefully integrated with cedar/vanilla/dark chocolate oak and supported by fine tight-knit tannins. Scented with violets, it's smooth, seamless and briary, with a suggestion of lightly herbal complexity.

James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion (Australia) 2008

92 points – 4.5 stars

Medium bodied; clean, firm classic blackcurrant fruit, with fine tannins and touches of cedar and earth. 4.5 stars.

“Pretty stylish Cabernet”

Rod Phillips (Canada) Rod Phillips on Wine, 28 August 2008

This is a pretty stylish Cabernet with concentrated and nicely complex flavours. It's smooth=texture, has ripe tannins, and excellent balance. It's a natural for grilled red meats.

John Szabo, Wine Access First (Canada) 25 August 2008

I enjoyed the restrained, almost cool climate character of this South Australian Cabernet, highlighting some herbal, spicy notes alongside fresh black berry fruit and integrated oak. The palate is fully dry and medium+ bodies, with rip but grippy tannins and juicy, nicely balanced acid. Drink now-2012.

Max Crus, Coffs Coast Advocate (Australia) 8 March 2008

Proper exec stuff. Serious cab from the serious rank of Coonawarra and deserves to be hailed as such. Was Cabernet a Roman emperor? 8.8/10.

John Fordham, Sunday Telegraph (Australia)

A memorable wine to make the 25th anniversary of a famous Coonawarra red. Richly flavoured and elegant it expresses Coonawarra's quintessential qualities.





Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Tony Keys, The Key Review (Australia) 23 August 2007

Defined Cabernet nose; smooth entry flavours then splits horizontally between classic blackcurrant fruit and other more earthy, savoury flavours. Plenty of tannin but it's not aggressive and supports the fruit; excellent finish with a long aftertaste.

Winestate (Australia) 1 June 2007

Mature, integrated aromas. Tight and tannic in the mouth, with upfront blackcurrant fruit and good acid structure.

Rich Allen, Ciao Magazine (Australia) 30 May 2007

I've been a big fan of the 04s from Coonawarra, and this is another winner. It has lashings of dark, meaty fruit and impressive length. It is made to cellar but the soft tannins make it approachable now. It's crying out for food – lame cutlets would be great.

Gary Walsh, Winorama (Australia) 9 February 2007

I have a bit of experience with Katnook. Big, dark and brooding cabernet usually so I gave this a good day and a bit to reveal itself. It certainly needed it and I think the screwcap often means that some wines look a bit more backwards than they would under cork although no question of this being a very appropriate closure for cellar worthy red wines. I have no doubt about it. Onya Katnook! Aromas of cassis, blackberry, camphor, dark mint chocolate, nutmeg and spice backed with coffee bean and vanilla oak. Big and rich. On the palate full bodied. No mucking about here. It has flavours of rich blackberry, cassis, dark chocolate and again that attractive coffee vanilla bean oak. Plenty of ripe mouth coating fine grained tannin and a sustained savoury blackberry and coffee finish. A monster cabernet that requires patience. Just remember that it is a virtue and something else I can't quite remember about good things coming...



Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Cabernet Sauvignon 2003

Reviews

James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion 2008 (Australia)

94 points – 5 stars

Medium bodied; very elegant, in the earthy/cedary/cigar box style of Katnook, fine ripe tannins. 5 Stars.

Stephen Tanzer, International Wine Cellar (Canada), September/ October 2008

Deep red. Classic cabernet aromas suggest red and blackcurrant, cherry, tobacco and succulent herbs. Fleshy and ripe, offering moderately deep, sweet red and dark berry flavours, lightly chewy tannins and a late note of anise. Subtle vanilla and anise qualities linger on the finish, which is a touch warm. This could handle strongly seasoned foods.

WineDiva, 18 September 2007

Red and black currant, mint, leather and spice with just a hint of bell pepper as the wine warms up. Smooth and fresh on the palate – rice acidly with integrated flavours. Medium-full bodies and elegantly structured with a lingering finish.

Peter Forrestal, Australian Gourmet Traveller Wine Magazine (Australia), 1 January 2007

Wayne Stehbins and his team at Katnook consistently produce one of Coonawarra's finest cabernets. They make several cabernets from the blockbuster superstar, Odyssey, to the more modest Founder's Block and Riddoch but this is the one I want to drink. The 2003 has fabulous depth of ripe cassis and blackcurrant characters, marvellous succulence and substantial, though ripe, fine-grained tannins. It is powerful, complex and shows layers of flavour. Best in seven to 10 years.

Campbell Mattinson, Winefront Monthly website (Australia), 1 August 2006

91 points

This could make me fall in love with cabernet all over again. It's just a beautifully elegant wine. It's not overdone and it's not in your face, the cedary blackcurrant drifting long through the palate – before fine-grained tannins take it out with a ripple. It will age deliciously – thought if you are expecting a thick, concentrated wine look elsewhere. Drink 2009-2015.



Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Cabernet Sauvignon 2002

Reviews

David Ellis, Sunshine Coast Sunday (Australia), 10 July 2005

If you're building a collection of the best wines for future celebrations, invest \$45 in the just released Katnook Estate 2002 Cabernet Sauvignon. Here's a wine with wonderfully subtle chocolate and cedary complexity, ripe berry, mulberry and plum flavours, lingering tannins and nicely balanced acid. Pull the cork around 2014.



Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Cabernet Sauvignon 2001

Reviews

MX Magazine (Australia), 20 February 2004

Strong berry fruit flavours, mixed with some dusty, earthy tones set this one apart. The palate is smooth and smothered in berries and plums, with hints of mulberries. The strong tannins give it good length and a lingering finish tops it off.



Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Cabernet Sauvignon 2000

Reviews

Huon Hooke & Ralph Kyte Powell, *The Penguin Good Australian Wine Guide (Australia) 2003/2004*

4.5 stars

An excellent regional style. The nose has tart leafy blackcurrant folded into measured cedary oak and the palate is concentrated but not too potent. There's ripe, leafy cassis like fruit and measured oak in the mouth, and tangy acidity coupled to ripe, dry tannins provides good structure. 4.5 stars. A marvellous wine that is so close to the top it almost doesn't matter.

Tony Harper, *Brisbane News (Australia)*

The 2000 was a cracker, teetering on the edge of acceptable leafiness, layered sweet, complex and youthful, with a delightful purity and elegance.





Katnook Estate

COONAWARRA

Cabernet Sauvignon 1999

Reviews

The Penguin Good Australian Wine Guide (Australia)

This vintage has given us another knockout cab from Katnook. This is one of the best '99s we've seen from the area. It has classic cedar and blackcurrant aromas from finely harmonized fruit and oak. It's fullbodied and concentrated but tremendously elegant. A wine of great style and personality. It would do justice to braised lamb shanks.