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### Winewise 01/10/2008

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**Type: Magazines Trade** Size: 227.00 sq.cms Frequency: bi-monthly

## 2007 CABERNET OLDERCABERNET

## **Highly Recommended**

2007 Ring Bolt Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon Richly flavoured and varietal, offering blackcurrant flavour with a hint of leaf. The tannins are fine and persistent. (\$22.00) Excellent Value 14.5% Cork

## Agreeable

2007 Capel Vale Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon Quite leafy on the nose, but delivers fresh, accessible varietal flavour. (\$19.00)15.0% Screwcap

2007 Flametree Margaret River Cabernet Merlot A fresh, lively, drink-now style with a hint of leafiness and suggestions of blackcurrant. (\$28.50) 14.5% Screwcap

## Acceptable

2007 Ferngrove Symbols Cabernet Merlot Shows a touch of development. Very straightforward. (\$15.95) 13.5% Screwcap

2007 Yellow Tail Cabernet Merlot A simple sweet red fruits style. Pleasant early drinking. (\$9.00) 13.5% Screwcap

## Outstanding

2003 Houghton Gladstones Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon Superbly fresh and varietal, showing powerful fruit balanced beautifully by fine tannins. Needs plenty of time. (\$69.00) 14.0% Cork

2004 Thomas Hardy Cabernet Sauvignon Ripe and strongly varietal, showing intense cassis aromas and flavours, with a hint of leafiness. The palate is powerful and long within a firm, fine structure. (\$105.00) 13.5% Cork

## Highly Recommended

2002 Brookland Valley Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot Fresh and varietal, showing red berry and blackcurrant characteristics. Classic cabernet tannins sit well with the intense fruit. (\$48.00) 13.8% Cork

#### Recommended

2004 Mildara Rothwell Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon A rich red fruits style that is still very fresh. Just a little simple, but provides good drinking. (\$50.00) 14.5% Cork





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2006 Killerby Cabernet Merlot A vibrant young wine of excellent varietal character. The palate is firm, but beautifully balanced and fine. Will improve in bottle. (\$20.00) 14.0% Screwcap

**2005 Sorby Adams Collage Cabernet Merlot** Has an attractive cabernet nose showing just a little cedary complexity and maturity. The palate is fine, firm and persistent. (\$16.00) 12.5% Screwcap

## **Agreeable**

**2005** Tim Adams Clare Valley Cabernet Richly ripe and packed with red fruits flavour. Not strongly cabernet, but is satisfying. (\$26.00) 14.5% Screwcap

**2005** Plantagenet Great Southern Cabernet Sauvignon Shows cassis characteristics but tends to be hard and hollow. (\$32.00) 13.5% Screwcap

2005 Houghton Crofters Cabernet Malbec A big red with a hint of mint and solid tannins. Lacks fineness. (\$30.00) 14.0% Cork

**2004 Peos Estate Manjimup Cabernet Sauvignon** Ripe and firm – plenty of flavour without finesse. (\$21.00) 14.5% Cork

**2006 Mountadam The Red** Quite oaky, and doesn't have the fruit intensity to match the wood. (\$40.00) 14.0% Cork

## **Acceptable**

**2005** Hollick Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon The colour is very mature, and this is reflected by obvious development on nose and palate. Too advanced. (\$29.00) 13.5% Cork

2006 Optimiste Marquis Mudgee Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot Petit Verdot Firm and slightly minty, light on mid palate flavour. (\$24.00) 14.5% Screwcap

**2005 Killerby Cabernet Sauvignon** A firmly structured wine in which the aromas and flavours are on the dull side. (\$25.00) 14.0% Screwcap





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**2004** Redman Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon Quite minty. The palate is very firm indeed. (\$35.00) 13.5% Cork

**2005** Optimiste Mudgee Cabernet Sauvignon Ripe and chewy. Finishes with hardness. (\$18.00) 14.0% Screwcap

**2005 Bluegrass Cabernet Merlot** Quite developed, showing both greenness and volatility. (\$20.00) 14.5% Screwcap

**2004 Printhie Swift Family Heritage Cabernet Sauvignon** Very hard and dry. (\$32.00) 14.1% Screwcap

2006 Conte Estate Hunt Road Reserve McLaren Vale Cabernet Sauvignon Very ripe and dull – lacking varietal character. (\$25.00)
14.5% Cork

**2005** Hollick Coonawarra Cabernet Merlot Very developed colour. Lean and advanced. (\$24.00) 14.5% Screwcap

Cabernet seems to be a no go zone for many consumers. Almost certainly, a flood of green, hard, under-fruited wines over the last decade has something to do with it.

The best wines of this tasting demonstrate how good Australian cabernet can be. They are very worthy of your consideration.

#### The Panel

The panel for this issue comprised Lex Howard, Lester Jesberg, Debbie Pearce, Jeff Piper, Len Sorbello, Phil Trickett and Ray Wilson.