



MARGARET RIVER

Ray Jordan—West Weekend—21.11.09

TEST OF THE BEST

It was a stella year for West Australian wines, with producers gathering many awards nationally and at important wine shows globally. The Laurance Icon cabernet 2007 and the Fraser Gallop cabernet 2007 are just two that scored major international success. The crème of the crop was brought together recently to decide which of the WA wines that won a West Australian wine of show trophy was the best for 2009. That title went to Geographe producer Barrecas for its superb 2008 Shiraz, which had previously been judged best wine of the Geographe wine show. The win gives you an idea of the depth and quality of the wine industry in this state, from the big guys to the smaller producers trying to make their mark.

Here are five of the best wines from the Wine Industry Association of WA annual awards. But let me assure you there are plenty more out there and given the quality of recent vintages, buying local should be high on your shopping list.



93/100 Clairault ESTATE Chardonnay 2007 [\$32]

Runner-up to the best estate white award. Multi gold and trophy winning wine. Intensely flavoured chardonnay brimming with lively tropical fruits and citrus characters. The cashew and crème brulee is compelling. Palate has tidy tightness controlled with excellent oak treatment and fine lingering acid. Will continue to improve in the bottle. **Good Match: seafood risotto**



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drink it

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