



MARGARET RIVER

PRESS REVIEW

Minestyle Magazine—June 2008



Vineyard's name adds up

Western Australia's Margaret River region is flush with vineyards that tumble out some of the finest wines in the country.

Twenty per cent of Australia's premium category reds and whites find their roots here.

Amid all that competition, singling out the supremos would be a tough ask – even for Bacchus.

Definitely one to watch out for, though, is Clairault, a lush 30-year-old property in the Wilyabrup sub-region.

Connoisseurs across the world are raising their flutes to this vineyard's exquisite creations.

Clairault has just picked up 10 medals at the 2008 International Wine Challenge in London – and was the only WA winemaker to win two gold gongs.

It also earned six awards at the Macquarie Bank Sydney Royal Wine Show earlier this year.

Clearly the Clairault team – steered by the Martin family and star sommelier Will Shields – is sniffing in the right direction.

The estate itself, which welcomes around 20,000 visitors annually, is picture perfect and a major upgrade is under way to sculpt it into a spiffy five-star vineyard spa resort.

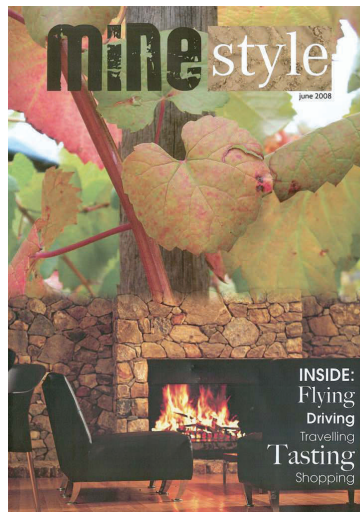
Clairault's cellar door and restaurant has also been transformed from a small café to an elegant fine-dining outfit that offers a perfect setting for some wine worship.

Some of Clairault's bestsellers include the sauvignon blanc that bursts with flavour, the well-structured cabernet sauvignon, the chardonnay and the whistle-clean semillon sauvignon blanc.

The cabernet merlot is also a popular quaff.

It's fitting the vineyard is named after 18th-century French mathematician Alexis Clairault, who calculated the perennial of Halley's Comet.

His namesake also seems to be blazing a heady trail of its own. ★



Vineyard's name adds up

“Western Australia’s Margaret River region is flush with vineyards that tumble out some of the finest wines in the country. Twenty per cent of Australia’s premium category reds and whites find their roots here. Amid all that competition, singling out the supremos would be a tough ask—even for Bacchus. Definitely one to watch out for, though, is Clairault, a lush 30-year-old property in the Wilyabrup sub-region.

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Clairault Chardonnay 2007



“At the 2008 International Wine Challenge in London, Margaret River’s Clairault Wines received 10 awards—the most successful West Australian winery taking part. The up-and-coming brands haul included two golds, three silvers and four bronze awards. Over the past year Clairault has made many improvements to its winemaking and recognition of this comes with an armful of awards.

The 2006 Estate Chardonnay was one of the medal winners at the London Show, picking up bronze. The 2007 vintage is also proving itself to be one to watch, for both its main range and the premium Estate range. The regular 2007 chardonnay benefited from favourable spring weather and a dry summer, which led to an early season and moderate yields of high-quality grapes. Eight different clones of chardonnay have contributed to this wine, allowing for greater fruit complexity and balance. Honeydew melon, pineapple and green pear fruit flavours dominate the aroma. On the palate the fruit is held together with a balanced acidity and shows great balance and minimal wood flavours.”



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