

2006 BALGOWNIE ESTATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Review Summary



94 pts “Balgownie’s Cabernet Sauvignon continues its excellent recent form – we reckon it’s one of the great buys of Australian red wine. It’s not a massively intense wine, but, then, that’s not its schtick. It’s curranty and savory and grippy, it’s minty aftertaste the main clue to its region. This will mature in beautiful fashion. Chocolatey pencil oak has been taken up perfectly by the fruit flavors. Really it’s just lovely – especially if you keep it for a few years. Pair it with good, old-fashioned roast lamb.”

Big Red Wine Book - 2009/10

92 pts “Cherry, blackcurrant and raisins mingle with woody cedar oak, tobacco and a fragrant mint/aniseed lift - a right old gentleman’s club of a wine - as is entirely appropriate for a medium bodied claret style such as this. It has firm fine grained tannins that make themselves known but aren’t over-bearing, and a reasonable sense of freshness and vigor. Balance and length combined with savory regional flavors mark this out as a wine of classic stature and some refinement. I quite like it.”

**Campbell Mattinson and Gary Walsh, The Wine Front
February 2009**

92 pts - TOP AUSSIE RED “Balgownie is the iconic Bendigo winery and this is a solid, full bodied cabernet, with a touch of gum leaf among a complexity of aromas and a rich, sweet-fruit palate endowed with good ripe tannins.”

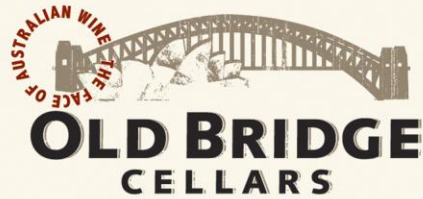
**SMH Good Living / The Age Epicure: Huon Hooke Tastings
April 2009**

91 pts “Decant for the first 5 years of drinking now but as all the elements for cellaring are present with subtle oak spice and solid red and black fruit flavors cellaring for a while would be best.”

**Rob Geddes
2010 Gold Wine Book**

91 pts “Ruby-red. Spicy redcurrant, cherry and cassis aromas are complicated by anise, dried flowers and smoky minerals. Brisk, medium-bodied red and dark berry flavors pack serious punch, with silky tannins adding focus and grip. A graceful, restrained style that combines New World vivacity with Old World balance. I wouldn’t hesitate to hold this for another five or six years.”

**Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar
Jul/Aug 2008**



90 pts “The 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon reveals aromas of tasty oak, pencil lead, spice box, cassis, and black cherry. This is followed by a medium to full-bodied Cabernet with ample ripe fruit, good depth, and enough structure for 4-6 years of further evolution. Drink it from 2012 to 2022.”

Robert Parker, eRobertParker.com
February, 2009

88 pts “The texture has some grit from the tannins, but the flavors are pure and clear in this medium-weight red, offering currant and herb character that lasts on the finish. Best from 2010 through 2013.”

Harvey Steiman, Wine Spectator, Great Australian Reds
October 15, 2008

88 pts - Best of the Best by Variety “Bright color and hue; like the Cabernet Merlot, lighter than usual for Bendigo, earthy/savory characters dominating the fruit.”

James Halliday’s Australian Wine Companion
2010

4 ½ STARS “When the great Stuart Anderson established this vineyard in 1969 he kicked off Bendigo's wine revival. This '06 cabernet opens with some savory regional notes, well-concentrated mulberry and plum aromas, and a charry, smoky thread. The medium-weight palate is well balanced and succulent, finishing grainy & savory.”

Ralph Kyte-Powell
The Age Epicure

BEST BUY WINES \$30 And Under “Stuart Anderson championed cabernet sauvignon in the days when it was a scarce, highly prized commodity. No doubt he’ll be proud of the 2006 – a wine in the style he set all those years ago. It’s medium rather than a heavy weight red with excellent depth and concentration. Aromas of mulberry and dark plum mingle with cedarwood and a touch of gumleaf. The palate is savory and succulent with a pleasing grainy texture that flows to a long harmonious conclusion. Enjoy now or confidently cellar for another 10 years.”

Peter Bourne, Gourmet Wine Traveller
April 2009