



**XABREGAS**

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## **Crafting the World's Finest Syrah**

One of the world's most renowned Wine Critics, Mr James Suckling, has just rated Xabregas Artisan Syrah 2009, as one of the best reds in Australia.

On a recent forage into Australian Shiraz with Master of Wine, Ned Goodwin, Suckling discovered that a rugged and remote location can do nothing to quell quality and craftsmanship.

“Western Australia's Great Southern, is a hotbed of experimentation among a febrile group of young winemakers. We like Syrah from (this) area!

Given the compelling wines from the likes of Xabregas, in the desolate yet achingly beautiful Great Southern, the quality is not to be doubted! These makers are crafting riveting wines with a solid portion of whole clusters, judicious to marginal SO<sub>2</sub> additions and very modest alcohols of 12.5 percent to, at the most, 14 percent.

These Syrahs and blends are without any doubt, among the finest examples of the idiom in the world and deserve to be part of any intelligent collector's swag.”

### **Xabregas Artisan Syrah 2009**

“A wine that is co-fermented in large neutral oak with whole bunch Roussanne, with the northern Rhone's influence seared in the aromas of violet, cracked pepper and meat. The spicy tannins, laced with anise, give the wine a thrilling pulse through the mouth. Fantastic stuff and a lesson for many on how to craft thrilling Syrah. 13.6%. Screwcap. Drink now and over the next decade!”

**Score: 96/100**

**Writer: James Suckling**

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