

RAY JORDAN'S

WA Wine Guide 2009

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The West Australian

Xabregas Wines

OWNERS Terry Hogan, Eve Broadley and others **WINEMAKER** Greg Jones, Sandra Cluning **ESTABLISHED** 1996 **VINEYARD LOCATION** Mount Barker **ANNUAL CRUSH** 300
VARIETIES Cabernet sauvignon, shiraz, cabernet franc, merlot, chardonnay, sauvignon blanc, riesling

For many years, stockbroking colleagues, Terry Hogan and Eve Broadley, had been captivated by the romance and challenges of the wine industry.

In 1996 they decided to make their dream a reality, acquiring vineyard sites aimed at producing grapes of high quality and character.

Xabregas now has three vineyards totalling 140 hectares on sites 10 kilometres south of Mount Barker — Fig Tree Lane, The Spencer Vineyard and the Narrikup Vineyard.

The wines have been consistent award winners and received strong critical acclaim, with gold at the 2007 International Wine and Spirit Competition in London, the Qantas Wine Show of WA and the New Zealand International Wine Show 2007.

The initial Xabregas wine production was limited to 2800 cases and each year has increased in quality and quantity, with the 2008 vintage yielding 20,000 cases.

THE WINES

89

Sauvignon blanc classic 2008 (\$16)
 Fresh lime juice aroma is appealing from the outset. It's a delightful fragrant and fresh

88

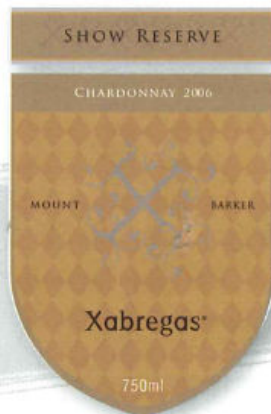
Show Reserve chardonnay 2006 (\$24)
 A little more delicate than the rich nutty full-flavoured chardonnay of previous vintages. Still with a creamy richness plus some roasted cashew and grapefruit meal. Nice oak influence. A very drinkable chardonnay.

93

Show Reserve shiraz 2005 (\$25)
 Really superb wine that has evolved beautifully since last tasted 12 months ago. A little more poised and refined than the standard shiraz. Classy expression of southern region shiraz with a warm vibrant and plump palate. A lovely wine of real class.

85

Cabernet merlot 2005 (\$16)
 Poised and fleshy cab merlot which fits perfectly into the drink-me, drink-me category. Fruit is dominant but the dusty oak and fine ripe tannins provide ample structure.



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OPEN Thu, Fri or by appt **WINE PRICES** \$14.99 – \$24.99
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