

The West Magazine

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wine RAY JORDAN

Gentle persuasion

Xabregas shiraz 2004 \$13.50

Quality: ★★★★★☆

Value: ★★★★★

Availability: ★★★★★☆



OK, here's the drum. You could spend your time working out how to pronounce this rather intriguing name, or you could simply open it, pour it and drink it. This vineyard was strongly influenced by the research work of John Gladstones, in particular his belief that the best vineyard sites would come from the region south of Mt Barker and Muir Highway. As it turns out, this is where this vineyard is located. After initially being

established to supply other producers, it is now releasing some great value-for-

money wines under this label with a premium show reserve range sitting above it. The wines are made by Di Miller at the co-operative Porongurup winery. I've been watching the development of these wines and have been impressed with the progress. I think they are now starting to achieve greater consistency and wines like this beauty offer great value for money. The fruit is full and richly flavoured with nice varietal, plummy, earthy and slightly savoury flavours. It's a gently persuasive wine on the palate. Sitting next to this one is a pretty fair cabernet merlot which for the same price is also worth checking out.