

2010 Mount Mary Cabernet “Quintet”

Listed as “Exceptional” on Langton’s Classifications of Fine Wines



Variety: Bordeaux Blend
Region: Yarra Valley, Victoria
Winemaker: Nick Middleton and Mario Marson
Vintage: 2010

**Andrew Callaird MW Langtons
 Fine Wine Auctions**

“Mount Mary commands a mythical status among wine collectors. Quintet is a Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Malbec, Merlot and Petit Verdot blend. The vineyard faces due north and captures optimum sunlight during the growing season. New French Oak plays an underlying role in the style. Owing to vine age, the wine has become richer and more complex during the 1990s. It exhibits a purity of fruit, poise and structure found in few Australian Cabernets with cedar and blackcurrant aromas, fine-grained savoury tannins and superb flavour length. Quality is usually outstandingly good, although as a single vineyard wine, the vagaries of vintage can come into play. Quintet resonates an individuality of place and Dr John Middleton’s (now deceased) fastidious respect of the landscape.”

Australia’s Greatest Cabernet

Mount Mary wines in the Yarra Valley are regarded as amongst Australia’s very best. The vineyard is situated on northern, well drained slopes, and historically has been regarded as an exceptional site. Established in the early 1970’s by Dr John Middleton and his wife Marli and now run by Dr. John’s grandson Nick, the reputation of Mount Mary has spread well beyond the shores of Australia with serious wine collectors world wide snapping up any stocks that happen to find their way onto the markets.

Proir to his death last year, Dr John Middleton had been assisted by winemaker and viticulturist, Mario Marson, and together they produced a collection of wines that are truly formidable. His grandson Nick has now taken the reigns after many years of being schooled for the position.

The Mount Mary Cabernets are regarded as the countries finest and positioned along side Penfolds Grange Hermitage and Henschke Hill of Grace as wine icons. The Cabernets are made with the classic Bordeaux blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Malbec and Petit Verdot.

What is the Langton’s Classification?

Inclusion in the Classification is an independent confirmation of a wine’s status within the ever-growing Australian secondary wine market. Where a wine is included in the Classification is dependent on the sale frequency, intensity and sentiment surrounding its place in the market. Brand definition, wine show medals and independent critical opinion are vectors of sale success, particularly in the sub-premium and premium wine markets. Of course there are many thousands of Australian wines. Of these only the 101 are currently classified and the “Exceptional” category is restricted to the eleven finest wines.

Mount Mary Quintet Cabernet Blend 2006

Jeremy Oliver Rating 97/100

A terrific wine of superb balance and focus. Its smoky bouquet of small dark berries and plums overlies nuances of mushrooms, minerals and restrained cedary oak. Supremely long, elegant and fine-grained, it still presents remarkable depth and richness of dark cherry, plum and berry flavour underpinned by fine crunchy tannins, nuances of dried herbs and suggestions of briar and undergrowth. It finishes with exceptional length and tight-knit acidity.(19.3/97, YTD 2018-2026+)”

Mount Mary Quintet Cabernet Blend 2005

Jeremy Oliver Rating 96/100

Supremely elegant, stylish and focused, this aristocratic red has a heady, floral perfume of dark cherries, plums, cassis and blackberries backed by scents of violets and dried herbs, dark chocolate/vanilla oak and suggestions of mocha. Sumptuously flavoured but silky-smooth, it’s dark-fruited, dusty and savoury, with an intensity that builds steadily towards its palate-staining finish. Framed by fine and beautifully ripened tannins, it flaunts its considerable influence from merlot.

Mount Mary Quintet Cabernet Blend 2004

Jeremy Oliver rating 97/100

“A top-drawer Mount Mary red that would appear to contain significantly more merlot than its mere eleven percent. Its deep, dark and briary aromas of violets, cassis, blackberries, dark plums and plain chocolate reveal undertones of dried herbs and bramble. Beautifully controlled and contained, its silky and elegant palate conceals its ample power and strength beneath an exterior of spotlessly fresh, pure blackcurrant and dark cherry fruit, camera-shy oak and tannin so delicate and fine that its genuine impact could easily be ignored. Evenly ripened, it also reveals classic nuances of dried herbs.”

Mount Mary Quintet Cabernet Blend 2003

Jeremy Oliver rating 96/100 and saying :

“Dusty aromas of fresh, dark cherries, blackberries and cassis are backed by tightly knit cedar/chocolate oak, with violet-like and tobaccoey undertones. Smooth and silky, the palate is round and juicy, delivering a sumptuous expression of vibrant dark cherry and small berry fruit handsomely supported by fine-grained oak and the finest of tannins. It’s polished and harmoniously balanced, and should develop impressive complexity with bottle-age. Mount Mary is one of Australia’s iconic vineyards

Vintage Report for 2006 Yarra Valley 9/10

Adequate rainfall over spring followed by a warm dry summer, occasional bursts of extreme heat and a mild autumn allowed the fruit to ripen extremely well with good flavour development and natural acidities. Vintage was really early with most completing by Easter