

Elderton Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon Vintage 2003

THE WINE

100% Barossa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

Colour: Dark inky purple

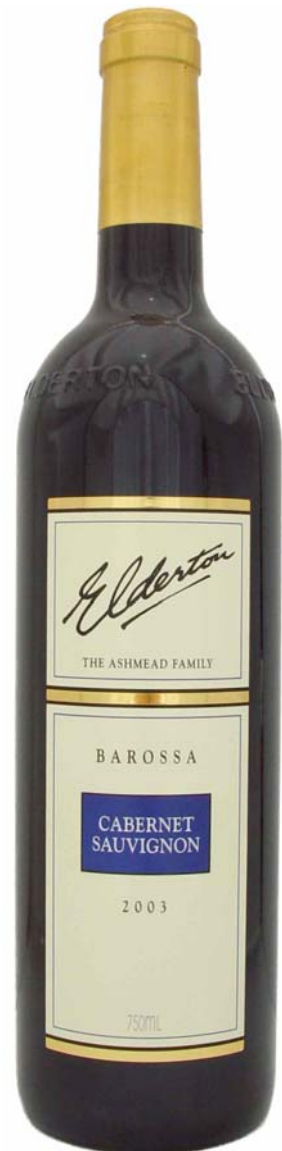
Nose: Plum, lifted fruit and spicy oak.

Palate: Very rich and full bodied, with plush tannins wrapped around a core of earthy blackberry, toasty vanillin oak and rich dark chocolate. Well focused and should drink well for a long time.

Alcohol: 14.5% Alc/Vol

Ageing: Enjoy now or 6-10 years from vintage.

Food: Loin of lamb or rare roast beef, field mushrooms and all the trimmings.



HISTORY

The Cabernet Sauvignon grapes are grown exclusively on the Elderton Vineyard situated on the banks of the North Para River, Nuriootpa, Barossa Valley, South Australia. The 1988 vintage was chosen by Qantas for first class, the 1992 Vintage won the prestigious Jimmy Watson Memorial Trophy in 1993 and for the next two years won Gold and Trophy at the Barossa Wine Show. The 1994 vintage gave Elderton its first international gold medal at the London International Wine Show 1996 (The 2002 also won this accolade). The 1998, once again won gold and trophy, in the Barossa wine show for the best regional Cabernet, and the 1999 won the trophy in Belgium for the best wine imported into Belgium.

VITICULTURE

The Elderton vineyard has very old deep alluvial soils over limestone with the majority of the Cabernet vines ranging between the ages of 30 to 45 years. With a Mediterranean climate, the Baumé reaches 13.5^o to 14.5^o. 2003 was a challenging but rewarding vintage for the Elderton Estate, due to unseasonable rains in February which affected a large amount of the vineyards in the Barossa. Due to David's great vineyard management, and our low yielding philosophy, we sailed through the difficulties and produced really good quality fruit, in turn allowing wines to be made with great colour, flavour and intensity.

WINEMAKING

Harvested at around 14.8^o Baumé in the cool of the night, the fruit was crushed and inoculated with a selected yeast strain for fermentation. Over the seven day ferment the wine is pumped over daily for further flavour and colour extraction. Matured in a blend of French and American oak puncheons for over 18 months, this wine offers integrated fruit flavours with balance and length.

ACCOLADES

GOLD – China International Wine & Spirit Challenge, 2006

BRONZE - London International Wine Challenge, 2006

92 Points – Robert Parker