



PEPPER TREE WINES

JAMES HALLIDAY 2015 AUSTRALIAN WINE COMPANION

A 5 star rating, represents an outstanding winery regularly producing wines of exemplary quality and typicity. Will have at least two wines rated at 94 points or above, and have had a five-star rating for the previous two years. 4.9% of wineries reviewed have received this prestigious statute.



2012 Pepper Tree Single Vineyard Reserve Block 21A Wrattenbully Cabernet Sauvignon

CM - Published on 27 Jul 2014

Block 21A has been the source of the vineyard's best cabernet for years but this is the first time it's been bottled separately. The thread of irresistibility is easy to follow. This has classic cabernet structure and flavour. It tastes essentially of blackcurrant, mulberry and mint but has smoky, nutty oak laced intricately throughout. It has both might and power and, most importantly, length to burn. A surge of authoritative tannin will ensure its longevity. Lengthy decanting is advised.

Rating: 97 | Drink By: 2035 | Price: \$60.00 | Date Tasted: 15 Feb 2014 | Alcohol: 14%

2012 Pepper Tree Single Vineyard Reserve Strandlines Wrattenbully Cabernet Shiraz

CM - Published on 27 Jul 2014

Built for the ages. Swaggering tannin and luscious blue and black berried fruit. Shiraz injects sweet fruit flavours into the palate but cabernet has its hands firmly on the tiller. Beautifully balanced and textured despite the roar of dry mouth-puckering tannin herding the fruit into shape. The power of the exquisite.

Rating: 96 | Drink By: 2032 | Price: \$55.00 | Date Tasted: 15 Feb 2014 | Alcohol: 14%

2012 Pepper Tree Single Vineyard Reserve Elderslee Road Wrattenbully Cabernet Sauvignon

CM - Published on 27 Jul 2014

This vineyard keeps churning out the hits. This is a substantial cabernet and a sound bet for the cellar. It's unafraid of tannin but it has a wealth of berried fruit to match. Blackcurrant and blueberry with eucalypt adding top notes. The fruit is supple but the overall effect is dry, firm and assured.

Rating: 95 | Drink By: 2028 | Price: \$42.00 | Date Tasted: 15 Feb 2014 | Alcohol: 14%

2012 Pepper Tree Single Vineyard Reserve Calcare Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon

CM - Published on 27 Jul 2014

Classy package. Fruit beats on against a current of tannin. Peanuts, eucalypt, cassis and smoky mineral notes. Woody, leafy character emphasise varietal character. So clean, so disciplined, so lengthy. Not made to be consumed young.

Rating: 95 | Drink By: 2030 | Price: \$42.00 | Date Tasted: 15 Feb 2014 | Alcohol: 14%

2013 Pepper Tree Single Vineyard Reserve Alluvius Hunter Valley Semillon

James Halliday - Published on 27 Jul 2014

Pale straw-green; a wine that proclaims its class and breeding loud and clear, with lemongrass and mineral acidity providing the framework for what will be a great future. The price is justified, but will stop some would-be buyers in their tracks.

Rating: 95 | Drink By: 2030 | Price: \$35.00 | Date Tasted: 09 Aug 2013 | Alcohol: 10.7%

2012 Pepper Tree Single Vineyard Reserve The Gravels Wrattenbully Shiraz Viognier

CM - Published on 27 Jul 2014

Excellent integration of shiraz and (5%) viognier. It's a bright, floral wine with dried herb notes adding interest. Eucalypt is an active player too. Not especially intense, but succulent through the mid-palate and assertively tannic through the back half. Almost nebbiolo-esque in its profile. It can be enjoyed young but its best is certainly ahead of it. Key feature: persistence.

Rating: 95 | Drink By: 2028 | Price: \$42.00 | Date Tasted: 15 Feb 2014 | Alcohol: 14.5%

2013 Pepper Tree Single Vineyard Reserve Venus Block Orange Chardonnay

CM - Published on 27 Jul 2014

Delicious blend of sophistication and upfront fruit appeal. Bell-clear flavours of pear, citrus and white peach with bran and struck match characters as highlights. Texture through the finish is worth noting. Neat and easy to like but a bit special too.

Rating: 94 | Drink By: 2020 | Price: \$35.00 | Date Tasted: 15 Feb 2014 | Alcohol: 13%

2013 Pepper Tree Hunter Valley Tasmania Semillon Sauvignon Blanc

James Halliday - Published on 27 Jul 2014

This pioneer blend produces exceptional synergies, each of the components gaining a second wind. The semillon provides a lemongrass and mineral streak, the sauvignon blanc passionfruit and kiwifruit to a level seldom seen in 100% Tasmanian sauvignon blanc; wholly satisfying and has excellent balance.

Rating: 94 | Drink By: 2015 | Price: \$18.00 | Date Tasted: 01 Sep 2013 | Alcohol: 12%



2012 Pepper Tree Single Vineyard Reserve 8R Wrattenbully Merlot

CM - Published on 27 Jul 2014

Merlot has generally been disappointing in Australia, a point often attributed to the clones of merlot available here. 8R is a new merlot clone to our shores. This release has a brightness to its fruit but a meaty savouriness to its tannin. It has soaked up its oak well though there's an attractive film of cedar-spice and toast. Eucalypt and plum sit in the driver's seat.

Rating: 93 | Drink By: 2024 | Price: \$55.00 | Date Tasted: 15 Feb 2014 | Alcohol: 14%



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2011 Pepper Tree Grand Reserve Single Vineyard Tallawanta Hunter Valley Shiraz

CM - Published on 27 Jul 2014

Excellent colour. Excellent intensity in the context of the Hunter Valley style. Flavours of plum, cherry, five spice and mineral earth. Oak gives the wine's texture a creaminess without necessarily adding much in the way of flavour; not a bad thing. The finish is satisfying but not extravagantly long. Solid medium-weight wine.

Rating: 92 | Drink By: 2024 | Price: \$75.00 | Date Tasted: 15 Feb 2014 | Alcohol: 14%



2013 Pepper Tree Single Vineyard Limited Release Hunter Valley Chardonnay

CM - Published on 27 Jul 2014

Leads you in with sweet pear and peach flavours but then rolls out the sophistication with mineral and high class oak and oatmeal notes. Not overly rich but not lean either. Comes at you with a bright, smiling face. Is a pleasure to be in the company of.

Rating: 92 | Drink By: 2019 | Price: \$22.00 | Date Tasted: 15 Feb 2014 | Alcohol: 13.5%

2012 Pepper Tree Single Vineyard Reserve 14 Shores Wrattontully Merlot

CM - Published on 27 Jul 2014

Merlot with a serious look on its face. Deep blackberried fruit with eucalypt and ferrous/mineral notes. Heavy rug of tannin shrouds the finish. Has a rugged appeal, and a lengthy life ahead.

Rating: 91 | Drink By: 2028 | Price: \$42.00 | Date Tasted: 15 Feb 2014 | Alcohol: 14%

2012 Pepper Tree Wrattontully Shiraz

James Halliday - Published on 27 Jul 2014

Light, clear crimson-purple; an elegant, fragrant and unforced expression of place, with a strong spice and pepper overlay to the red and black fruits of the bouquet and medium-bodied palate alike, oak and tannins bystanders.

Rating: 91 | Drink By: 2020 | Price: \$18.00 | Date Tasted: 01 Sep 2013 | Alcohol: 14.5%



2012 Pepper Tree Wrattontully | Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon

James Halliday - Published on 27 Jul 2014

The contribution of each region isn't specified, but that's unimportant in understanding the wine, its cassis and blackberry fruits nestled in spicy French oak - oak a little too obvious perhaps, but this is a gift horse that will go the distance.

Rating: 89 | Drink By: 2022 | Price: \$18.00 | Date Tasted: 17 Feb 2014 | Alcohol: 14%