



## TASTING NOTE

# 2020 GREAT WESTERN CABERNET FRANC

In 1982 Merlot was planted on the Concongella Vineyards' Thirteen- Acre Block. Imagine the surprise when half the vines behaved in a totally different manner: Best's were the proud owners of Cabernet Franc. As a surprise packet the vines and wines have proved their place in the Great Western portfolio. Cabernet Franc tends to be more aromatic and has a softer and brighter fruit flavour than its more famous cousin, Cabernet Sauvignon.

This wine was reincarnated in 2016, the first time since 2006, as in November 2006 the vineyard was hit with a severe frost when the temperature plummeted to -7°C. It took this time and lots of careful nurturing for the vines to recover and regain their balance. We are very happy to be able to release this wine, which we believe is a great example of the variety.

### Technical Details

<b>Region</b>	Great Western, Victoria
<b>Grape Variety</b>	Cabernet Franc
<b>Alcohol</b>	13.5%
<b>Winemaker</b>	Justin Purser

### Tasting Notes

**Colour** Bright crimson with a purple hue

**Bouquet** A very attractive nose of pomegranate, rose petals, cassis and Brazil nuts.

**Palate** Succulent and plush dark berry flavours with velvety tannins and a lingering minerality. Lots of extract and flavour yet soft and graceful.

**Cellaring** This youthful wine is great expression of the quality of Cabernet Franc possible in Great Western. This wine is drinking well now with food, but it will soften and gain complexity over the next 10- 15 years.

Try it with Lamb Rogan Josh

**Vintage** A hot and dry growing season meant the vines ripened quickly and crops were lower than average. Sufficient water supply ensured the grapevines remained in good health and a cool February ensured all the natural acidity was retained at harvest. The grapes had bundles of concentrated flavour and lots of vibrant acidity.



111 Best's Road Great Western, Victoria, Australia 3374

**P:** (03) 53562250 **F:** (03) 5356 2430 **E:** info@bestswines.com **W:** www.bestswines.com



## **AWARDS AND REVIEWS**

### **REVIEWS**

**2021 Global Fine Wine Challenge** – Succulent and plush dark berry flavours with velvety tannins and a lingering minerality. Lots of extract and flavour yet soft and graceful. This youthful wine is a great expression of the quality of Cabernet France possible in Great Western. Lively and bright.

**Ageing:** 8-10 years **Average Rating:** 92 points

**Australian Wine Guide** – Clive Hartley, Jan 2022

Lighter style of Franc. Floral with a hint of smoke, slightly reductive. Dry medium bodied with red fruits that produce a soft wine with good acid levels but retains its balance. Very Loire-ish.

**Recommended**

**Halliday Wine Companion** – James Halliday, April 2022

Light-medium bodied, but a perfumed bouquet and lissom palate with a light-fingered hand just touching the keys of the piano's tune of admirable length and finish. A rare cabernet franc; like many other growers in Victoria in 1982, these vines were sold to Best's as merlot.