

GOOD WINE GUIDE 2013



First Drop Wines has once again been recognised as a 5-star winery in *The Age / Sydney Morning Herald Good Wine Guide 2013*, by Nick Stock.



2009 First Drop Fat of the Land Ebenezer Shiraz

Score 96

Ah, those Ebenezer soils are working magic here again, showing plenty of toasty (100% new French) oak mocha and spice on the nose, framing a deeply concentrated black fruit core. The palate has a supple, juicy and decidedly soft-centred texture to it, with plenty of black fruits, cherry, plum and chocolate - the essence of its place. Tannins are hidden in all the flesh. Don't underestimate the ability to age here.

2009 First Drop Fat of the Land Greenock Shiraz

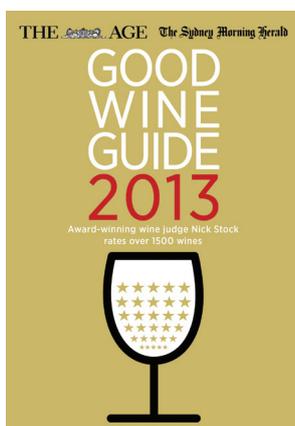
Score 93

This wine is super-rich, ultra-ripe and has that hidden Greenock power to it. The nose offers black fruits, plum, cake, dried prunes and earthy aromas. The palate runs sheets of solid tannin from edge to edge and delivers deep plum and blackberry flavour amid toasty oak spice - not one for the meek of palate.

2010 First Drop Pintor Tempranillo

Score 93

This ripe, rich and hearty take on tempranillo in the Barossa is packed with dark, brambly fruit and framed in 50% new French, 20% new American and the balance older French timber. There are dark toasted spices, cherries and mocha. Meaty and forthright with a long, rumbling chain of tannin like a driving bass line. Vinous rock'n'roll!



2009 First Drop Fat of the Land Seppeltsfield Shiraz

Score 96

The most structured of the three Fat of the Land Shiraz wines made in 2009, this has a distinctly reserved attitude. Fruits sit in the plum and blueberry spectrum; there's some cassis here too, clove, cardamom, anise and licorice all adding complexity. The palate has a sleeve of ripe, nicely grained tannin buried in a dark plum, blackberry and licorice flavour - quite elemental still, best with some time. Very concentrated.

2010 First Drop Half and Half Shiraz Monastrell

Score 93

The second release of this hearty and forthright blended red, this shows plenty of deep black mataro fruit on the nose, a tarry edge, some dark tanned leather and a sweet earthy thread here - real Barossa stuff. The palate's fleshy and forthright in a brash and charming style, with black cherry pip flavours and a lithe, juicy shape; long fine tannins here. Impressive swagger and top value.

2010 First Drop Mother's Milk Shiraz

Score 92

A dense and plum-scented wine with blueberries and blackberry fruits too. There are hints of older oak in the mix and a little orange rind, even stone fruit elements - really bright, generous and slightly exotic. The palate's dense and smooth, really flowing easy and even, tannins are supple and the finish leaves plump blackberry flavour in its wake.

2009 First Drop JR Gantos

Score 93

A blend of cabernet sauvignon and touriga nacional, this has a little chalky note, some cedary oak too, purple berries and dark cherry fruits, and some gentle oak spice. The palate is succulent and juicy; dark purple stone fruits and silky tannins are seductively arranged. Rich, soft and balanced.

2009 First Drop Minchia Montepulciano

Score 93

From the Adelaide Hills, this has plenty of colour and depth from the get-go, a ripe dark berry and plum nose, some bracken and dark herbs also in the mix. The palate is rich and assertive, with dark berry and plum flavour ahead of graphite and vanillin. Long, supple and compelling wine.

2010 First Drop Mother's Ruin Cabernet Sauvignon

Score 91

A knockabout cabernet sauvignon that has cassis and fruit pastille aromas; plenty of chocolate and cedary oak here too. The palate's sturdy and bold, delivering a big hit of dark berry flavour ahead of a wall of tannin that holds the finish firm.