



James Halliday Australian Wine Companion 2012

BELLARMINE WINES

Pemberton



Star Rating:

This vineyard is owned by German residents Dr Willi and Gudrun Schumacher. Long-term wine lovers, the Schumachers decided to establish a vineyard and winery of their own, using Australia partly because of its stable political climate. The vineyard is planted to merlot, pinot noir, chardonnay, shiraz, riesling, sauvignon blanc and petit verdot. Diane Miller, previously head of the Vintage Wineworks contract winemaking facility, is winemaker and operations manager. Exports to the UK, Canada and Germany.

Bellarmino Pemberton Shiraz 2009



Rating: 95

Drink By: 2029

Deep crimson-purple; spice, licorice, black cherry and plum and aromas, then an unexpectedly full-bodied palate with good tannin structure supporting the panoply of spicy dark berry fruits; 300 dozen made.

Bellarmino Pemberton Riesling Dry 2010



Rating: 94

Drink By: 2020

Classically proportioned and balanced riesling, the gently floral, fine bouquet followed by a palate that progressively builds flavour through to its zesty, citrus finish and clean, spring day aftertaste.

Bellarmino Pemberton Riesling Auslese 2010



Rating: 96

Drink By: 2020

Bright straw-green; a flowery lime blossom bouquet leads into a quite entrancing palate of Bickfords Lime juice and background tropical nuances, the sweetness perfectly balanced by acidity. In terms of the Mosel Valley, somewhere between Kabinett and Spatlese level.

Bellarmino Pemberton Riesling 2010



Rating: 95

Drink By: 2020

Bellarmino's estate vineyards are not only well located, but impeccably managed, resulting in reliably high quality grapes. This wine is ever a wolf in sheep's clothing, unless you read the back label revealing that some residual sugar gives the palate a cornucopia of sweet lime juice flavour perfectly balanced by acidity.

Bellarmino Pemberton Pinot Noir 2009



Rating: 94

Drink By: 2016

Clear crimson; another chapter opens with WA pinot noir showing clear-cut varietal character, albeit in a region identified long ago by Bill Pannell; retains spicy, savoury notes despite substantial alcohol; very interesting wine, with a long, satisfying finish; 100 dozen made.

Bellarmino Pemberton Chardonnay 2009



Rating: 93

Drink By: 2019

Pale, bright crystal; a delicate but complex chardonnay with nectarine and a touch of French oak on the bouquet, the palate adding grapefruit to the equation; long finish, crisp acidity promising well for the future.

Bellarmino Pemberton Pinot Noir 2008



Rating: 93

Drink By: 2015

Retains crimson hue; has significantly more structure and weight than the '07, with a spicy/savoury background to the red and black fruits; good length and balance. Has time on its side.

Bellarmino Pemberton Sauvignon Blanc 2010



Rating: 90

Drink By: 2012

Pale quartz; moves from pea pod through to citrus and ultimately gently tropical fruit; easy drinking style