



154 James Halliday

Celestial Bay ★★★★★

33 Welwyn Avenue, Manning, WA 6152 (postal) **Region** Margaret River
T (08) 9450 4191 **F** (08) 9313 1544 **www.celestialbay.com.au** **Open** Not
Winemaker Bernard Abbott **Est.** 1999 **Cases** 6000

Michael and Kim O'Brien had a background of farming in the Chittering Valley when they purchased their 104-ha property. It is very much a family enterprise, with son Aaron studying Viticulture and Oenology at Curtin University, and daughter Daneka involved in marketing and sales. Under the direction of vineyard manager Sam Juniper, 50 ha of vines have been rapidly planted. The plantings are totally logical: semillon and sauvignon blanc (13 ha); chardonnay (13 ha); shiraz (6 ha); and cabernet sauvignon, merlot, malbec and petit verdot (18 ha). Winemaker Bernard Abbott celebrates his 23rd Margaret River vintage in 2008.



Margaret River Cabernet Merlot 2003 Clean, pure; medium-bodied blackcurrant/redcurrant mix; excellent balance, length and texture; fine tannins. Cork. 14° alc. **Rating** 94 **To** 2015 \$19.99

Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2003 Very much in the vineyard style; medium-bodied, with clear-cut varietal fruit and sustained but ripe tannin support; quality French oak. Cork. 14° alc. **Rating** 94 **To** 2017 \$19.99



Margaret River Semillon Sauvignon Blanc 2005 A voluminous bouquet leads into a powerful mix of slate, grass and lemon; excellent structure.

Screwcap. 14° alc. **Rating** 93 **To** 2010 \$17

Margaret River Shiraz 2003 Aromatic red and black fruit and spice mix; a vibrant, tangy edge to the palate, yet in no way green; controlled extract.

Cork. 14° alc. **Rating** 91 **To** 2012 \$20

Margaret River Shiraz 2004 Retaining hue well; medium-bodied, smooth, supple mouthfeel; plum, spice and blackberry flavours; good tannins and length.

Screwcap. 14.5° alc. **Rating** 90 **To** 2013 \$20

Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2004 Carries the oak far more convincingly than the Cabernet Merlot, though still evident, along with cassis and blackcurrant fruit.

Cork. 14.5° alc. **Rating** 90 **To** 2015 \$20



Margaret River Semillon Sauvignon Blanc 2006 Crisp, clean, lively and delicate; the semillon is dominant, partly reflected in the low alcohol; flavour will grow with age. Screwcap.

11.5° alc. **Rating** 89 **To** 2011 \$16

Goose Chase Margaret River Rose 2006 Delicate but precise nuances of cassis and raspberry; good balance and finish; good value. Cabernet Sauvignon.

Screwcap. 13.5° alc. **Rating** 88 **To** 2008 \$12