



All Reviews...

2011

After a decade of warm and dry conditions the 2011 vintage broke the drought with over 600 mm of rain during the growing season versus an average of 350mm, the cool and wet conditions resulted in our latest harvest on record (16 April v 2 April average). Yields were reduced but those grapes that were picked were of good quality – great natural acidity and lovely flavours in our Chardonnay with the Pinot Noir benefitting from the long cool ripening (second longest veraison interval, 68 days v 57 day average).

2011 10X Chardonnay

92 :: Nick Stock :: 2013 Good Wine Guide :: 1/11/2012

There's plenty of fruit on offer here, and winemaking has added subtly complex flinty and mealy character to the bright pears, melon and peach fruits on the nose. The palate's bright and crunchy, and good acid kicks things along nicely. Flavours are bright: peach and nectarine, savoury thread here too.

93 :: Campbell Mattinson :: winefront.com.au :: 30/09/2012

Ten Minutes by Tractor is an upper echelon producer these days. Remarkable achievement. Terrific drinking here. Perfectly weighted, flavoured, textured. Lots of citrus, melon, creamy oak and milky, saline notes. Racy but it feels good on your tongue. And the aftertaste – spicy, briney, stonefruity – brings a smile to your face. Great for drinking this summer – though it will hold and develop well over the next few years. Drink : 2012-2015.

Matthew Jukes :: Wine Rules :: 28/08/2012

TMBT is one of my favourite estates in the country and this 10X label is now a must have mini-brand with serious appeal and a knockout flavour to boot. The wizards have decided to reward this wine with a barrel or two made from the finest French oak and this is evident not only on the nose, but also, texturally, on the palate. The result is a truly flamboyant experience for an eminently affordable price tag.

4 stars :: Tony Love :: Herald Sun :: 14/08/2012

RATHER SMART - The noise surrounding the modern Australian chardonnay revolution thankfully continues, and this regional three-vineyard blend gets whole-bunch pressing, wild yeast fermentation, 23 per cent new, small oak barrels all the hallmarks of the highest shelf wines. And it is rather smart because of it subtle with white stone fruits shining on the palate with a dash of gingery spice. Very tasty and a pleasure to drink.

92 :: James Halliday :: 2014 Australian Wine Companion :: 1/07/2013

Pale, but bright green; a well-made and complex chardonnay, with stone fruit, grapefruit, cashew and cream characters all contributing. Pretty smart entry point wine. Drink by: 2018.

Lisa McCuigan :: Qantas Magazine :: 1/12/2012

The 10X range is made from fruit grown on Mornington Peninsula. This is lightly oaked with luscious fruit and a mineral finish. It's a great choice for summer because it retains its flavours when served icy cold.

2011 10X Pinot Gris

Peter Bourne :: Qantas Magazine :: 1/12/2012

The Ten Minutes portfolio focuses on chardonnay and pinot noir, so it's taking a diversion here. But it's a worth the trip, with aromas of bosc pear, lemongrass and almond skin along with a distinctly creamy texture. The palate is deft with depth and integrity, a spicy lift and a tight, bright, mineral finish.



All Reviews...

2011 10X Pinot Gris

93 :: James Halliday :: 2014 Australian Wine Companion :: 1/07/2013

Has developed bright green-yellow colour; this is a gris with attitude, it has texture and structure to its pear, apple and quince flavours that continue through to the long finish. Drink by: 2014.

2011 10X Pinot Noir

91 :: Campbell Mattinson :: winefront.com.au :: 21/09/2012

This has become one of the Mornington Peninsula's best wine estates, judged by what's in the glass. This 2011 release bursts from the glass. Aroma galore. Stalks, dried peppers, mulch, red berries. Sweet, fragrant, savoury, twiggy. This riot is followed by more of the same in the mouth, with smoky, drying, gamey tannin to boot. Seriously shaped/styled; nothing cheap and cheerful about this. Juicy citrus notes, forest berries, beetroot and rose-petal lift through the finish. Impressive. Drink: 2012-2016+.

90 :: Tim White :: Australian Financial Review :: 4/10/2012

Deep, soused forest berries, with richness, but also cut and an edge. Woodsy smelling with a sniff of gentle pepper spice. Silky palate with pure squeezed blackberries; a touch of poached rhubarb. Light valedictory spicy mouth-aromas. Excellent wine from a tricky, cool, wet vintage.

Matthew Jukes :: Wine Rules :: 28/08/2012

With raucous black and red fruit notes on the nose of this boisterous Pinot, this is one of the more modern and edgy wines of the day. Inevitably appealing to classicists and newcomers alike, TMBT has the unnerving knack of nailing every wine they make and encouraging more and more people to experience the unbridled joys of serious Pinot Noir. Don't stress about what to serve with this wine, just take the top off, find some large glasses and get on with it.

91 :: Nick Stock :: 2013 Good Wine Guide :: 1/11/2012

There's some nice, ripe characters here in a vintage in which many others struggled to reach the finish line. Ripe cherry and boysenberry, red fruits too, gently fragrant and a lightly musky nose. The palate's supple with lilting cherry flavour. A mellow wine with soft tannins and a bright, crunchy finish.

2011 10X Rosé

90 :: Andrew Graham :: ozwinereview.com :: 1/10/2012

2011 was a shitty vintage on the Mornington Peninsula. Sure we can debate the level of shittiness (some will just call it 'challenging') but there is no sugar-coating the fact that the cool wet conditions made it a tough year to grow ripe healthy grapes. Shitty conditions don't necessarily lead to shitty wines though, with the most astute and selective vignerons still able to craft impressive wines by spraying, plucking and sorting ad nauseam. I'd place Ten Minutes by Tractor firmly in that boat too. Indeed this Pinot based rosé looks pretty damn good, all things considered. The acidity is still a little pointed and there is a slightly herbal edge but the wine still has the texture to carry everything off, the palate weight boosted by judicious wild fermentation and 2 months maturation in old oak. As the winery suggests, this is definitely a rosé for grown ups, carrying the length and definition of a much more serious wine. I liked it. Drink: 2012-2013+.

91 :: Nick Stock :: 2013 Good Wine Guide :: 1/11/2012

A pinot noir rose from the Mornington Peninsula; this has pale-salmon colour and smells of light, bright red fruits, some gentle, savoury spice here too. The palate is supple and smooth, and there's good acid, making for bright, tangy impact. Red fruits to close.



All Reviews...

2011 Estate Chardonnay

92 :: Huon Hooke :: huonhooke.com :: 26/01/2014

Medium to full, bright yellow colour. Complex smoky oak and roast hazelnut bouquet. The same in the mouth where it's rich and smooth, soft and flavoursome, with density and depth, succulence and balance. Delicious wine, but probably not for long keeping. Drink 2014-2018.

94 :: James Halliday :: 2014 Australian Wine Companion :: 1/07/2013

Focused, fine and tight, the citrus and stone fruit components woven together in a skein of minerality. All Ten Minutes by Tractor Chardonnays are made the same way every year: hand-picked, whole bunch pressed, wild yeast-fermented and matured for 10 months in new and used French oak barriques. Drink by: 2019.

92 :: Jeremy Pringle :: winewilleatitself.com :: 9/11/2013

The step up to the Estate Chardonnay, sourced from the Wallis and McCutcheon vineyards is noticeable. I wonder how much of the increased linearity and elegance is due to 73% of the fruit coming from the Wallis site which I think almost always produces Chardonnays of greater structure and subtlety? A cooler year is obviously going to play a part as well. We're still seeing some generosity here but there's more detail and definition to go along with the punchy stonefruit notes. Amidst a savoury leesy body are suggestions of sweet basil, lime and brown spice. Comforting layers of buttered toast and nougat are present but the line is never enveloped or lost. An almond and grapefruit finish. Complexity without any corresponding loss of form.

Chris Shanahan :: chrisshanahan.com :: 27/11/2013

We're spoiled for choice on top-notch Australian chardonnays for Christmas. From a wet, cool and latest harvest on Ten Minutes by Tractor's record, comes this beautiful, elegant chardonnay. It was hand harvested in mid April, whole-bunch pressed and fermented by indigenous yeasts in a combination of new and older French oak barrels – where the wine matured for nine months, undergoing a malolactic fermentation and regular lees stirring. Mouth-watering white-peach-like varietal flavour provides the base for the wine, subtly supported by the textures and flavours of the barrel influence, and carried by zingy, fresh, natural acidity.

93 :: Andrew Graham :: ozwinereview.com :: 1/07/2014

I've got the 2012 vintage of this Estate Chardonnay on the bench for tasting over the next few weeks, so thought it would be good to have another look at the '11 (just for balance). As with this wine's single vineyard older brother (the 2011 Wallis Chardonnay), this is a lean and minerally wine, driven by acid rather than fruit power. There is loads of creamy yeast richness on the nose, though the palate looks much drier and quite controlled. It doesn't quite have the pure precision of the Wallis, but the intensity is still typically excellent, the oak and fruit perfectly melded. You could ask for more weight to match up with the firm acid, but that's the only gripe. Superb, complex Chardonnay from a very tricky vintage. Drink 2014-2019.

2011 Estate Pinot Noir

90 :: Andrew Graham :: ozwinereview.com :: 30/09/2014

Intriguingly, I found this more drinkable than its older brother the 2011 McCutcheon. Lovely delicate redcurrant nose and has a little of the raspberry red fruit of classic Mornington Pinot. Gee it looks brittle to finish though - a little meaty and punching acidity. Still a softer wine in context and actually pretty tasty.

90 :: James Halliday :: 2014 Australian Wine Companion :: 1/07/2013

Light red-purple; extended wild yeast ferment, then 14 months in new and used French oak; a gently perfumed bouquet leads into a light-bodied, pretty palate that revolves around red berries. Drink by: 2016.

94 :: Mike Bennie :: Wine Business Magazine :: 1/10/2013

You can almost feel this wine purring - loose knit, gamey, animale and a lick of all spice. It's supple, succulent and long in flavour with enough interest in these fruit and winemaking details to make it a wine to linger over to watch it unfurl. Big on sex appeal.



All Reviews...

2011 Estate Pinot Noir

92+ :: Campbell Mattinson :: winefront.com.au :: 16/11/2013

Made from all three of Ten Minutes by Tractor's main vineyards: Judd, McCutcheon and Wallis, all of which are in the Main Ridge sub-region of the Mornington Peninsula. In a tough year like 2011 having some blending options was probably a pretty handy thing. This surprised me with how good it is. It got the pulse racing a bit. It has that undergrowthy, meaty, spicy combination that pinot noir can do so well. It's light in colour but high in acid and tannin and interest. It's forcefully tea-leafy and dry, shot-through with twiggly spice, and in need of time. It has an excellent medium-term future ahead of it. Drink: 2015-2019+.

92 :: Huon Hooke :: huonhooke.com :: 3/11/2013

Medium light red colour, with a purple tinge. Slightly lifted, savoury leather, pot pourri, faded roses and mushroom kind of bouquet, with a degree of maturity. Medium to full palate with savoury-developed flavours and a core of sweet ripe fruit, then soft tannins throughout the palate. Acid shows out a bit, pumped by some alcohol warmth. There's a core of richness to it. A satisfying drink, with ample tannins and length. Good, if a trifle forward. Drink 2013-2017.

2011 McCutcheon Chardonnay

93+ :: Campbell Mattinson :: winefront.com.au :: 10/11/2013

Elegance is the name of the game here. This is the antithesis of the blockbusting style. It's a lilting wine, elegance its key feature. It tastes of lemon curd and spicy oak, white peach and nectarine. It has fruit and oak but mostly it has length and poise. It's both delicious and refined. It will be even better in a year or two. But quality-wise, it is tip top. Drink 2015-2019+.

94 :: Andrew Graham :: ozwinereview.com :: 1/07/2014

A top Chardonnay from the first whiff. It's perhaps a little more forward than the other '11 Ten Minutes by Tractor single vineyard wines, but gee it smells special. Quite yellow in colour, the nose has some sulphide funk, creamy oatmeal wild lees richness and just a little nectarine. Surprisingly warm and full flavoured for the label, it is medium to full bodied, yet driven by biting grapefruit acid. The complexity alone here is commendable – that interplay between yeast funk and some quite serious richness, which is quite unsurprising for what was a very cold vintage. It's perhaps a little full and even slightly marmaladey, but seriously long and layered. Superior wine. Drink: 2014-2017.

93 :: Jeremy Pringle :: winewilleatitself.com :: 9/11/2013

Scores aren't a science but there's a degree of relief when you look at a wine eight months down the track and your impressions and rating haven't changed that much. I don't believe the wine has either. Leesy, washed rind funk sits behind powerful melon and white stonefruit flavours. Nuts, smoke, grapefruit and flint. A quality oak chassis. Opulent, full-bodied but not overdone. Transparency of site is there for all to see. It also has an extra degree of length over the 2011 Estate Chardonnay.

95 :: James Halliday :: 2014 Australian Wine Companion :: 1/07/2013

Has another layer of intensity and complexity, white peach and nectarine edging their way towards centre stage, but still with grapefruit zest making a significant contribution. Drink by: 2020.

94 :: Huon Hooke :: huonhooke.com :: 26/01/2014

Full, bright yellow colour. Lovely buttered toast and roasted hazelnut bouquet. The palate is smooth and rich, with fresh energising acidity and youthful delicacy as well as penetrating intensity. A fine wine, although the acid is a trifle assertive. Drink now-2019.



All Reviews...

2011 McCutcheon Pinot Noir

93 :: Huon Hooke :: huonhooke.com :: 3/11/2013

Medium red colour, with a purple tinge. Spicy and savoury leathery bouquet showing some development. Some oak influence in the leather. It's soft and full, not rich but with a fruit-sweet core balanced by substantial acidity, and an elegant, long palate endowed with fine, soft tannins. Very attractive drinking wine, full of charm. Drink 2013-2019.

92 :: Jeremy Pringle :: winewilleatitself.com :: 5/11/2013

Some true gravitas on show. Sap, spice and forest notes accompany raspberries, roses and dark cherries with tart plum skins adding a further dimension of interest. The acidity is brisk yet invigorating and the tannins are snappy but ripe. A layer of high-grade oak frames the wine. Extremely savoury, slightly saline and with good depth and penetration. An impressive result considering the challenges faced.

92 :: James Halliday :: 2014 Australian Wine Companion :: 1/07/2013

Light red-purple; while light-bodied, the wine has more structure and complexity than the Estate, with pleasing spicy/savoury elements to the red fruits, made in identical fashion, so this is terroir speaking. Drink by: 2017.

2011 Wallis Chardonnay

95 :: Andrew Graham :: ozwinereview.com :: 24/06/2014

'The best worst vintage we ever had' Campbell Mattinson

If ever there was a wine to attest to just how good the best 2011 releases are, it is this Chardonnay. Produced by the detail focused Ten Minutes by Tractor, there is a purity and elegance here that perfectly fits a cool and wet vintage - its what you'd want your Chardonnay to look like in 2011. Think whipped cream, white flowers and grapefruit, the palate lean, long and sculpted like a long distance runner, stripped of fat, leaving a racer underneath. It doesn't have the sunny richness or power of the 2010, and indeed it is snappy and very dry, yet the length and vitality make it an absolute winner. Such a lean and acid-driven Chardonnay isn't going to be for everyone, but I loved this. Standout Chardonnay. Drink 2014-19.

94+ :: Jeremy Pringle :: winewilleatitself.com :: 2/01/2013

Delicacy, elegance and focus have always been traits of the Wallis and the 2011 growing season has brought them into even greater relief. Such a pretty wine, all floral with detailed high tones. The acidity is driving but balanced, folding back into the wine on day two of tasting. White peach, honeydew melon, tangerine and grapefruit with a little struck match. Crystalline architecture with each flavour and aroma clearly delineated within the whole. Suggestions of spice, washed rind cheese, toast and basil. Simultaneously layered and linear with an impressive self-assured nature along with incisive extension through the back-palate.

92+ :: Campbell Mattinson :: winefront.com.au :: 16/11/2013

The cool, wet years are often the better ones for white wines. Or not so bad, anyway. This single vineyard wine makes a decent fist at making such an argument. It's delicate. But forceful. Its charms unfurl slowly in the glass. The acid is strong, the flavours coy at first – though they do come forward, you just need to give them time. Grapefruit, citrus, creamy oak, woodsmoke. Some green notes on the finish but they don't necessarily detract, or distract. I think this is going places. Bit it won't do so in a hurry. Drink: 2015-2020+.

96 :: James Halliday :: 2014 Australian Wine Companion :: 1/07/2013

Here there is a much riper mouthfeel, white peach, melon and fig all in a creamy web. Given that both the individual vineyard chardonnays are made in the same way, a spectacular demonstration of terroir at work, and Montrachet at play. Drink by: 2021.



All Reviews...

2011 Wallis Chardonnay

Chris Shanahan :: chrisshanahan.com :: 18/12/2013

Wallis chardonnay appealed on the tasting bench then moved to the dinner table where we served it masked to wine-savvy visitors. It provoked an initial "Ah, Chablis" response - recognition of its high acidity and lean structure. But as the wine warmed, the cool-climate grapefruit and white-peach varietal flavour blossomed around the acidity. From a very cool and the latest vintage yet at Ten Minutes by Tractor, the delicate, refined Wallis chardonnay held our attention to the last drop. One bottle seemed not enough.