

Coldstream Hills



2014 Yarra Valley Merlot

Coldstream Hills was established in 1985 by James and Suzanne Halliday and has since grown to become one of Australia's leading and most awarded small wineries.

Situated in the picturesque Yarra Valley east of Melbourne, the steep close planted vineyards of Coldstream Hills have become a signature of the region. So too have its wines, which reflect regional character, consistency and style.

Although a temperamental variety in the vineyard, Merlot is particularly well suited to the warmer slopes of the Yarra Valley. Sourced from the Hazeldene Vineyard in the Upper Yarra, as well as Coldstream Hills' Briarston Vineyard, each parcel of fruit was handled separately using either open or static fermenters. The wine was then matured for sixteen months in new and seasoned oak prior to blending and bottling.

Winemaker Comments Andrew Fleming

Vintage conditions: The growing season began with a variable spring season, followed by a dry and warm Summer. Conditions during the flowering period were not conducive to optimum fruit set, with many vineyards harvesting below average yields. A challenging vintage in many respects, but fruit quality remained of a high standard.

Technical Analysis

Harvest Date 20-26th March 2014

pH 3.44

Acidity 6.1g/L

Alcohol. 13.5%

Residual Sugar 0.2g/L

Bottling Date November 2015

Peak Drinking Now to 2022

Maturation Matured for 16 months in a mixture of new (25%) and seasoned French oak barrels.

Colour Vibrant cherry red with crimson hue.

Nose Attractive dark cherry notes dominate with plum, blackberry and olive tapenade also evident. Cedary oak is subtle and is complemented with nuances of nutmeg and clove spice.

Palate Medium bodied in style with plush texture, powdery tannin and great length of flavour. Dark cherry and blackberry dominate, with cedary French oak adding further support and structure. Nutmeg, cinnamon and clove nuances add spice and complexity to the wine with hints of dark chocolate evident in the background.