



Coldstream Hills

Yarra Valley Merlot 2010

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 and Amphitheatre Blocks, 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

Vineyard Region

Yarra Valley

Vintage Conditions

The growing season began well with good rainfall in September. Average to above average rainfall fell in the ensuing months resulting in excellent vine health. The ripening period was characterised by an extended period of warm conditions without the extremes of the 2009 vintage. Fruit ripened quickly, but evenly, resulting in a compressed harvest period across all varieties.

Technical Analysis

Harvest Date March 2010

pH 3.58

Acidity 6.3g/L

Alcohol 14%

Residual Sugar 0.27g/L

Bottling Date 15th August 2011

Peak Drinking Now - 2018

Grape Variety

Merlot

Maturation

This wine was matured for 16 months in French oak barriques - 22% new

Colour

Vibrant cherry red with purple hue

Nose

Attractive fruit characters of dark plum and cherry with underlying black olive tapenade notes. Secondary notes of five spice and dark chocolate are evident and are complemented by cedary French oak.

Palate

Medium bodied in style with fleshy Merlot texture, cedary French oak and silky fine grained tannins. Ripe fruits of cherry and plum dominate the palate with Upper Yarra derived black olive notes further enhancing the wine. Balanced and harmonious, the wine is a fine example of Yarra Valley Merlot.