



HOLLICK

Coonawarra

2000 Neilson's Block Merlot

The Hollick Winery is flanked by the Neilson's Block at the cool southern end of Coonawarra's famed terra rossa strip. The 2000 Neilson's Block Merlot is made from a selection of the best fruit from this mature high-density vineyard. The long, cool and dry growing season that has established Coonawarra as the pre-eminent region in Australia for Cabernet Sauvignon is also ideally suited to producing Merlot of exceptional varietal purity and depth of flavour.

Merlot is one variety where the adage "the older the vine, the better the wine" certainly holds true. Fruit for the 2000 Neilson's Block Merlot was selected from low yielding vines planted in 1985, from parts of the vineyard where the terra rossa soil is very shallow. Once in the winery the utmost care is taken to preserve the fruit flavours developed in the vineyard. Towards the completion of fermentation the wine was transferred to new Seguin Moreau French oak barriques to complete fermentation in wood. A further 18 months maturation in these same barriques completed the winemaking process. Prior to bottling each barrel was critically assessed by the Hollick winemaking team to ensure that this wine is truly the "expression of Coonawarra".

Colour: A lively medium red with purple hues at the rim. Will develop brick red colours with cellaring.

Aromas: Opulent aromas of violets, red cherries and black olives. Integrated chocolatey French oak permeates the pure fruit aromas.

Flavours: Medium-bodied, the palate is vibrant and refined, distinguished by concentrated Merlot varietal flavours. Blackcurrant and cherry fruit flavours are underpinned by fine silky tannins and spicy oak notes which contribute length and structure.

Eminently approachable now, this wine will reward cellaring for 10 years or more. A great match with light meat dishes such as milk-fed veal or a saddle of rabbit.

Technical Details

Alc/Vol	13.5%
pH	3.35
Total Acidity	5.69g/l
Bottled	February, 2002



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Merlot**
750ml