



HOLLICK

Coonawarra

2001 Nielson's Block Merlot

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. The Hollick Winery in Coonawarra is flanked by the Nielson's Block at the cool southern end of the famed terra rossa strip. The 2001 Nielson's Block Merlot is made from a selection of the best fruit from this mature high-density vineyard.

Merlot is one variety where the adage "the older the vine, the better the wine" certainly holds true. Fruit for the 2001 Nielson'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. At around three baume 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 bright ruby red with purple hues at the rim. Will develop brick red colours with cellaring.
- Aromas: Opulent aromas of violets, mulberries and blackcurrants. Integrated chocolatey French oak adds complexity to the pure fruit aromas.
- Flavours: Medium-bodied, the wonderfully balanced palate offers up juicy, ripe Merlot flavours of mulberries and black cherries. Exquisitely fine tannins contribute to the wine's great length, while nuances of French oak completes the complex palate.

The wine's fine balance ensures that it is delicious on release, but it will develop added dimension with extended maturation (5 to 15 years). Has proven a great success with saddle of rabbit.

Technical Details

Alc/Vol	13.5%
pH	3.15
Total Acidity	6.88g/l
Bottled	March, 2003

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Merlot**

ALC 13.5% BY VOL · PRODUCE OF AUSTRALIA · 750ml