TERRA ROSSA MERLOT 2020

Classic cool-climate Merlot, expressive and approachable with clarity and length of flavour.

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Viticulture

The fruit for this wine is sourced from the 17 rows of 'Terry's Block' on our 'Abbey' estate vineyard.

Planted in 1985, this low yielding 1.5 ha sub-section produces fruit with strong regional character and intensity of flavour.

The Terra Rossa Merlot is made in limited quantities, and only in those vintages deemed to be truly outstanding.

Winemaking

The grapes were picked by select harvester on the 30th of March; these state of the art harvesters de-stem the berries in the vineyard, therefore also macerating the fruit in preparation for fermentation.

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The grapes were fermented in a 9T closed top fermenter for 9-12 days at a cool temperature to increase aromatic retention. Pump-overs occurred daily to express fruit profile and obtain vibrant colour. All parcels completed malolactic fermentation in stainless steel before the wine was barrelled down to a combination of old and new French oak for 1 year of maturation prior to bottling.

Tasting Notes

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Colour	Deep purple core with bright red rim.
Aroma	An aromatic nose of mulberry and plum with earthy undertones and a hint of spice.
Palate	Generous and rich palate of blackberry, chocolate and a touch of red liquorice. Bright acidity and fine, chalky tannins blend into a smooth, lingering finish.
Analysis	
Alcohol 14.5%	5.7g/L
<i>pH</i> 3.46	<i>RS</i> 0.5g/L



