Geoff Merrill `Henley` Shiraz 2009



Region

Located just 30 minutes drive south east of Adelaide and parallel to the coast, these rolling hillside vineyards produce some of Australia`s finest Shiraz and Grenache based red wines. Some of the areas historic old wineries were established in the late 1800s and many remain today. With a strong regional identity on the international stage, the wines have a distinctive style and subtlely achieved from a combination of very warm summers, mild winters and cooling sea breezes. Many of Australia`s most famous and expensive wines have their vineyard origins within this region.

Producer

Geoff Merrill was born in 1953 and was raised on a sheep station in the far north of South Australia until he was 11 years old. The Merrill family then moved to the Barossa Valley, just north of Adelaide, where Geoff`s first links with the wine industry were formed. Following his `apprenticeship` at Chateau Reynella, in 1985 he purchased the historic Mount Hurtle winery. Reknowned for his handle-bar moustache and friendship with many of crickets elite, his talents were rewarded in 2005 when he received the legendary Jimmy Watson Trophy, probably Australia`s most prestigious wine award, named after the iconic Jimmy Watson`s Wine Bar in Melbourne.

Tasting Notes

Henley is named in honour of Geoff`s grandfather, who passed away at the ripe old age of 102. It is the name of the beach where he and Geoff spent many a happy hours together. There`s a real freshness to the aroma upon opening, which becomes more and more sophisticated with every minute in the glass. Black pepper, herbs, clove and stewed plums come forward, then they make way for the complex characters that only come with age. Dark soy, leather, chocolate and roast beef gravy.The palate is tight, fresh and sprightly. It shows spice, developed berry fruits, chocolate and savoury meats with hits of earth and coffee.

Food

Match with aged steak with a Bordelaise sauce of with smokey barbecue meats.

Technical Information

Country	Australia
Region	McLaren Vale
Grape(s)	Shiraz (100%)
Type	Red
Style	Complex
Oaked Style	Oaked
Body Style	Full bodied
Sustainable	No

Dry/Sweet Style	Not applicable	
Alcohol Content	14.5%	
Closure Style	Cork	
Organic/Biodynamic	No	
Allergens	**Milk:**	No
	Egg:	No
Vegetarian/Vegan	**Vegetarian:**	Yes
	Vegan:	Yes

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