



BASILISK

2008 CABERNET MERLOT

An enchanting combination of serpent and rooster, the Basilisk is a creature of folklore whose name and legend have inspired the creation of our premium wine range. This enigmatic blend of two creatures' parallels our concept of uniquely styled wines, each individually crafted by combining exceptional parcels of fruit with passionately applied winemaking techniques to create a wine true to its variety and regional origin.



Silver 2010 Decanter World Wine Awards
Silver 2010 International Wine Challenge
Silver 2009 Royal Hobart Wine Show
Bronze 2010 Queensland Royal Show
Bronze 2010 Royal Adelaide Wine Show
Bronze 2010 Royal Perth Wine Show

‘★★★★★’

Winestate Best Wines of 2010

VINTAGE INFORMATION

Region	Central Victoria
Varietal	Cabernet 91% Merlot 6%
Alcohol	14.5%
Best Consumed	2009 - 2014

WINEMAKING / VITICULTURE

Fruit for the Basilisk Cabernet Merlot was harvested from our Sinclair vineyard within the Goulburn Valley during March/April 2008. The must was fermented in static red fermenters and pumped over every eight hours for the ferment's duration. Once the ferment was dry, the resulting wine was pressed off the skins and allowed to settle before letting a natural secondary fermentation commence. Separate parcels of the wine spent between 6 and 12 months on French oak, after which the final blending of select parcels took place. The ensuing wine is rich and generous with luscious dark varietal Cabernet notes and hidden layers of oak, tannin and wonderful complexity.

The attractive varietal length of the wine is magnificent and can only be complimented by the soft, supple tannins that the Merlot contributes to the wine.

HARVEST NOTES

The growing season in 2008 started very well with a cool spring and good rains vital during the growing season. Harvesting began a little earlier than usual, nevertheless small berry sizes and lighter bunch weights complimented by high sugar levels produced ripe, rich and intense flavours in the berries. The 2008 growing season was a memorable one in which intensity and fruit quality were so superior, unlike anything seen for a long time. The 2008 Basilisk Cabernet Merlot depicts the remarkable influence that seasonal variation can have on a vine and hence a finished wine, with the quality being superb.

WINE DESCRIPTION

This classic, full-bodied blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot exhibits a rich, intense nose full of cassis, blackberries with a hint of spicy oak and traditional Christmas fruitcake. With a boldly structured palate displaying flavours of black fruits such as blackcurrants and plums, the intense, velvety length of the wine seems endless. This is a truly elegant Cabernet Merlot with careful balance, remarkable complexity and enduring length that will only benefit from careful cellaring.

FOOD RECOMMENDATIONS

To truly appreciate the intensity of this wine, enjoy with dishes such as rib roast or strongly flavoured cheeses.