

PENLEY ESTATE

1996 HYLAND SHIRAZ TASTING NOTES

Release: February 1998

Variety: Shiraz

Area: Coonawarra

Analysis: 12.5% Alcohol, 6.15g/l Acid, 3.37ph

Country: Australia

Objective: To create a youthful, rich and mellow wine. Created to drink now. A wine of varietal fruit but only the hint of American oak. Oak will complex the flavours and enhance the fruit. This wine must show area characteristics, varietal fruit and have plenty of flavour.

Vintage

Comment: Cool and dry during the growing and harvest period. Harvest was late, cool and dry. Yields were slightly above average but the late harvest resulted in reds with strong colour and flavour, Chardonnay with elegance and distinct varietal flavour.

The Wine: The colour is crimson, but will develop some amber tints from its oak maturation and later bottle age. The aroma is varietal with a complex of berry and peppery like features. Strong lifted aromas of variety and oak. The flavour is young and fruity. A soft and rich middle palate with only the trace of oak tannin on the finish. The 1996 is an elegant style but does show a little more fruit and body weight on the palate than previous vintages.

Maturation: The oak is minimal but discernible so the small amount of wood tannin and fruit flavours will aid maturation if required. Best enjoyed for the next 1-3 years. Premium wine must have the ability for some bottle age, since there is sometimes 1-2 years between bottling and actual drinking.

Penley's Winemaking

Style: The balance is a key feature in all Penley Wines. This ensures the wines will mature successfully in the bottle, this wine shows dominance of fruit with hints of smoky oak and grape tannin. A wine made to enjoy while the young distinct but elegant Coonawarra Shiraz characters are evident. Characters of berry and black peppers. 85 % American Oak and 15% French Oak Hogsheads for 18 months, 20% was 1996 Oak. Due to the intensity of the fruit it was necessary for the wine to remain in wood a little longer to gain a better balance.

Awards: Awards are now generally given to wines already bottled and labelled. Hence any awards are more likely in the year of sale.

Bronze Medal International Wine Challenge 1998

Bronze Medal Class 56 1998 Cowra Show

Bronze Medal Class 28 1997 Adelaide Show

Bronze Medal Class 23 1997 Stanthorpe Show

International Wine Cellar 85/100 Points The Best New Releases From Australia (July/August 1998)

3 Star Winestate Magazine (Limestone Coast Tasting November/December 1998 Issue)