

HOWARD PARK



FINE WINES
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

HOWARD PARK RIESLING 2002



RIESLING 2002

TECHNICAL NOTES

The 2001/2002 growing season was "interesting". Windy and wet conditions in November made flowering difficult, particularly in the Great Southern and Margaret River. The subsequent poor fruit set meant that yields were significantly decreased in some parts of these regions. A cool, dry summer extended the ripening season, resulting in ripe fruit flavours at lower sugar levels and consequently lower alcohol in the finished wine. The lack of summer rain produced fruit that was almost completely disease free.

The fruit was given a very gentle crush - just sufficient to burst the individual berries. The resultant "free-run" was kept separate, being the finest quality juice free from the "grippy", bitter phenolics associated with the skins.

The Howard Park Riesling was selected from the best batches of fermented free-run juice, blended and bottled. This style of wine represents the purest expression of the fruit, a reflection of fruit quality.

TASTING NOTES

The wine is a pale straw colour with lively, steely green tinges. The nose is a perfumed blend of limes, lemons and more tropical passionfruit.

The initial impressions on the palate are of a seamless structure, soft grapefruit flavours and a lingering citrus finish. The use of only free-run juice has given the wine "fineness", that compliments the delicate varietal flavours of Riesling.

There is a complex array of flavours in the mouth, dominated by limes and grapefruit.

These are supported by hints of spice and mineral on the mid-palate and green apple on the impressively long finish.

VARIETY

2002 Riesling

REGION

100% Great Southern
(Mount Barker and
Porongurups)

CELLARING

The refreshing citrus flavours create a wine that is very appealing in its youth. However, it may take up to ten years before the fine steely structure transforms into the toasty, rich, complex wine that is an aged Riesling.



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