

Heggies

Heggies Vineyard Merlot 2000

The Heggies Vineyard was purchased in 1971 by Wyndham Hill Smith from his great friend, Colin Heggie. The label portrays Colin astride his horse Jack at sunset, surveying the first plantings in the fledgling vineyard.

Heggies is a single vineyard in Eden Valley where the 'terroir' is encouraged to produce the distinctive Heggies wine styles. The soil is a thin layer of grey sandy loam over clay and decomposed rock - and vines compete vigorously for moisture and nutrient. An altitude of 550 m above sea level, 787 mm of annual rain, plus innovative viticultural practises produce wines of full flavour and balance.



WINEMAKING / VITICULTURE

Close planting (1m x 1m) has had a remarkable impact on the ripeness levels achieved with this Merlot. The high-density plantings stimulate competition between vines and keep the bunches small and the berries tiny, exactly what is required for the making of a great red wine.

The Heggies Vineyard Merlot 2000 is a rich, deep red in colour with a crimson hue. Aromas of intense fruit with hints of dark chocolate and savoury game nuances, lead into a full palate. Berry fruit and fine tannins give good length and suppleness - an excellent cool climate Merlot

WINEMAKERS COMMENTS

'Heggies Vineyard is tremendously challenging and not an easy vineyard to manage. Each variety planted at Heggies undergoes its own programme of care according to its position in the vineyard. Working with the natural surroundings rather than against them is the driving force, with every factor taken into consideration, to try and capture the flavour and balance of the grapes in their purest essence. We spend a lot of time working and experimenting in the vineyard, aiming to develop wines that have their own varietal characteristics and personality'. Heggies Vineyard Winemaker, Peter Gambetta

PRESS REVIEWS / AWARDS

"4 STARS. This Eden Valley maker has produced some generously proportioned merlots over the years and the 2000 follows suit with a complex nose that isn't just sweet fruit. It suggests plum, earthy herbs and black olives, and the palate is soft and savoury with fine gentle tannins. Food mixed mushroom tart. Ageing drink over three years."

Huon Hooke and Ralph Kyte-Powell, Good Living Uncorked, August-September 2003

VINTAGE INFORMATION

Vintage	2000
Region	Eden Valley
Winemaker	Peter Gambetta
Harvested	March & April 2000
Oak Treatment	14 months in 31% new Allier & Troncais Hogsheads, balance in older French oak
Alc/Vol	13.5%
Total Acid	6.4 g/L
pH	3.38
Residual Sugar	23 g/L
Cellaring	Enjoy immediately or will mature and soften with 5-8 years bottle age

