

# Heggies

## Heggies Vineyard Merlot 1999

*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 the 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 Merlot 1999 is deep ruby red in colour with a vibrant purple hue. The aroma is of concentrated red berry fruit and minty tobacco left complexed with toasty vanillin oak characters. The palate is soft and rich with layers of red berry fruit with the mid-palate displaying texture and sweetness from fine oak tannins.

### WINEMAKERS COMMENTS

'Heggies is not an easy vineyard to manage. It is a wilful and unforgiving site but it is precisely this that makes any progress so rewarding. It is a great site for experimentation and it is here that many trials are conducted -be they varietal, rootstock, trellis or irrigation-based. The future at Heggies becomes more exciting all the time as we have access to new clonal material and rootstocks and we continue to experiment with reduced deficit irrigation' .. Hugh Reimers, Heggies Vineyard Winemaker

### PRESS REVIEWS / AWARDS

Heggies Vineyard Merlot 1999 BLUE GOLD MEDAL winner at Sydney International Wine Show 2002

Heggies Vineyard Merlot 1998 winner of Best Merlot of Show Trophy at 2001 Hobart Wine Show

### VINTAGE INFORMATION

<b>Vintage</b>	1999
<b>Region</b>	Eden Valley
<b>Winemaker</b>	Hugh Reimers
<b>Harvested</b>	April 1999
<b>Oak Treatment</b>	15 months in 26% new Allier & Troncais Hogsheads, balance in older French oak
<b>Alc/Vol</b>	14.5%
<b>Total Acid</b>	7.8 g/L
<b>pH</b>	3.34
<b>Cellaring</b>	Has richness to be enjoyed immediately, but will mature and soften with 5-8 years bottle age

