

Geoff Merrill Wines



2001 Henley Shiraz

THE NAME

"Henley is named in honour of my Grandfather, who passed away at the ripe old age of 102. This wine is the best of the best of our McLaren Vale Shiraz and only 10 barrels of the vintage are set aside for Henley." - Geoff Merrill

VINTAGE INFORMATION

2001 appears to be 'a stunner'. While the hot weather brought forward vintage about two weeks, excellent growing conditions provided a very good vintage both for yield and quality. In some ways it was one of the quickest vintages but still operationally all went smoothly.

McLaren Vale had very high temperatures early in the year but then the weather settled down and had little impact. Due to very good winter rains most vineyards had good canopies which may have reduced the impact of the very hot weather. Most growers reported their reds to be 'very good to excellent', with colour the best seen for some time and lots of fruit depth and fine tannins.

The 2001 Henley blend is taken from 3 vineyard sites in McLaren Vale, with an average vine age of 45 years.

WINEMAKERS NOTES

The colour is a deep brick red with cherry red hues with aromas displaying distinct blackberry fruit, chocolate and mint, made more complex by well integrated oak showing cedar, toast and creamy notes.

The palate is firm and tightly structured, currently showing a toasty vanillin oak character with powerful fruit in the background waiting to burst forth. A rich blend of red berries and spices can be found entwined throughout the length of the palate growing in intensity as the wine opens up.

WINEMAKERS

Geoff Merrill & Scott Heidrich

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Variety: Shiraz

Oak Treatment: 36 months in new French oak hogsheads.

Region: McLaren Vale

Harvest Date: March 2001

Alc: 15.0%, **pH:** 3.40, **TA:** 7.06 g/L, **RS:** 2.3 g/L

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