HOWARD PARK



FINE WINES WESTERN AUSTRALIA

HOWARD PARK Riesling 2006



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TECHNICAL NOTES

The 2005/2006 growing season was a remarkably cool one. Maximum temperatures only rarely got as high as 30°C and in general the nights were relatively warm. The resulting small diurnal range through the growing season lead to very even ripening conditions for riesling fruit.

The cool conditions through the year allowed the fruit to develop fine citrus and mineral flavours that Great Southern riesling is famous for. Additionally the lower temperatures meant that the fruit stayed on the vine for one to two weeks longer than is normal leading to greater concentration of flavour in the fruit.

As the fruit neared maturity, there were a few sporadic rain events but these caused no damage to the fruit.

Upon arrival at the winery the fruit was immediately processed to ensure the highest quality juice. Only free run juice, which is tighter and more finely structured as it has no phenolic character, was used for this wine.

Directly after pressing, most juice batches showed an almost fierce acidity and wonderfully pungent citrus aromatics, characteristics that for riesling juice typically indicate excellent potential. All batches were kept separate and were cool fermented in stainless steel tanks to maintain the delicate fruit flavours. Extensive blending trials of the free run batches were carried out to produce a wine that is very elegant but still powerful.

TASTING NOTES

The wine is a translucent pale straw in colour with pronounced green hues. The nose shows fresh limes, citrus zest and floral notes hinting of lemon blossom. The palate is refreshing and unadorned showing wonderfully clean citrus and lime flavours with a strong minerality. The wine finishes with a magnificent thrust of refreshingly clean acid down the centre of the palate.

VARIETY

Riesling

REGION

100% Great Southern

CELLARING

This wine will greatly reward the patient enthusiast. Secondary characters will start to develop after two years and will continue to add complexity to this wine for at least ten years.



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