

COONAWARRA
PENLEY ESTATE
AUSTRALIA



2005 PENLEY ESTATE GRYPHON MERLOT

WINEMAKER: Kym Tolley
REGION: Coonawarra, South Australia
VARIETALS: Merlot
MATURATION: A portion was barrel fermented, followed by maturation in French oak
ALCOHOL: 15% alc/vol

VINTAGE NOTES:

After a wet winter, spring was cool to mild followed by a warm, dry summer. The 2005 harvest saw plenty of sunshine and very little rain. These conditions produced intense flavors, aromatics, and colors.

TASTING NOTES:

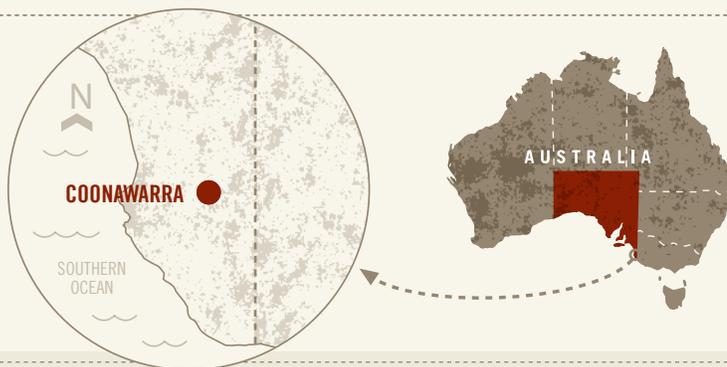
Penley Estate crafts super premium wines from estate vines planted in shallow terra rossa soils over limestone. The Gryphon label symbolizes strength, intelligence and vigilance, all of which contribute to Penley's quest to produce the quintessential merlot. The 2005 Gryphon Merlot expresses distinctive Coonawarra fruit, luscious aromas and delicate structure unique to the property. The fruit for this wine was picked at maximum flavor development and was barrel fermented using French oak. This medium to full bodied wine exudes distinct floral and violet aromas integrated with smoky vanilla oak. Refined silky tannins blend seamlessly with rich red and spicy dark berry flavors to produce a Merlot with regional personality and amazing finesse. Drink now or cellar up to five years for additional complexity.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

2005 vintage- 87 pts- Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate

ABOUT PENLEY ESTATE:

Penley Estate is located in the heart of Australia's greatest Cabernet wine region: Coonawarra. Owner Kym Tolley, a direct descendant of the pioneering Penfold and Tolley winemaking families, has over 25 years winemaking experience, including tutelage under Grange creator Max Schubert. Continuing a family tradition that spans five generations, Tolley established Penley in 1988 on Coonawarra's famed terra rossa soils, with the aim of producing terroir-driven wines of true regional character. Penley is now regarded as one of the region's leading producers.



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PENLEY ESTATE 2005 GRYPHON MERLOT

Review Summary



87 pts

“The 2005 Merlot “Gryphon” was aged in 20% new French oak. It offers toasty, cassis, black currant, and olive aromas which lead to a supple, medium to full-bodied wine with sweet fruit, light tannin, and a moderately long finish. Drink it over the next 4-6 years.”

**Robert Parker’s The Wine Advocate
October 2007, Issue 173**