

COONAWARRA
PENLEY ESTATE
AUSTRALIA



2007 PENLEY ESTATE GRYPHON MERLOT

WINEMAKER: Kym Tolley
REGION: Coonawarra, South Australia
VARIETALS: Merlot
MATURATION: Aged in 25% new French oak barrels for 18 months
ANALYSIS: 15% alc/vol | 6.4 g/L TA | 3.34 pH

VINTAGE NOTES:

A dry and cold winter was followed by severe frosts during spring and early summer throughout the region. Summer was very dry with warm to hot days and mild to cool nights. Significant rainfall in January provided relief and enough moisture to carry the vines through to harvest. Below average yields resulted in wines of extremely high quality.

WINEMAKING:

The Gryphon fruit was partially barrel fermented using a mix of French oak producers and forests, ensuring complexity while maintaining Penley's hallmark oak integration. Fermentation persisted for approximately 7-10 days at temperatures of 15-18 degrees C, while traditional "heading down" tanks (open fermenters with submerged caps) were used to help maximise colour, flavour and tannin extraction.

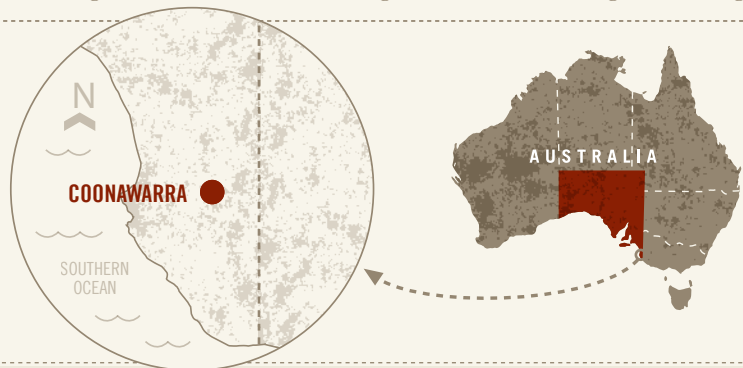
TASTING NOTES:

The 2007 Gryphon Merlot is loaded with regional personality and amazing finesse. A nose of violets, plums and blueberries offers restrained oak integration and lifted perfume, while the medium bodied palate flaunts a full mid palate of rich red berry notes. This gently textured wine texture finishes with smoky vanilla French oak and a refined silky tannin structure.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 88 pts Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate, 88 pts Wine Spectator Online, 87 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

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. His aim: to produce terroir-driven wines of true regional character; he is now regarded as one of the region's leading producers.



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