



2012 FRISK PRICKLY RIESLING

REGION: Victoria (73%) and South Australia (27%)
VARIETALS: Riesling
FERMENTATION: Stainless steel
ANALYSIS: 9.5% alc/vol | 4.3% RS | 3.10 pH | 6.77 TA

WINEMAKING:

Made by a team of maverick winemakers hailing from Victoria's far corners, Frisk is crafted by seasoned hands. Harvested in the chilly eve, prized free-run Riesling juice is fermented with canny yeasts that ensure the wine is sporting plenty of aromatic verve. And the prickle? A gentle spritz courtesy of those clever yeasts, captured to deliver a palate-rousing tickle.

REGION:

Nestled into the foothills of the Victorian Alps, the Alpine Valleys harbor a handful of dogged grape growers whose ancestors arrived in the 1850's after a less-than-comfortable boat trip from Italy. With lofty slopes climbing to 2000 feet, vineyards are snow clad in winter and punch through clouds to nab a slice of sunshine in summer. The vines here greedily nosh ancient deposits of granite-based loam to produce flinty, minerally wines.

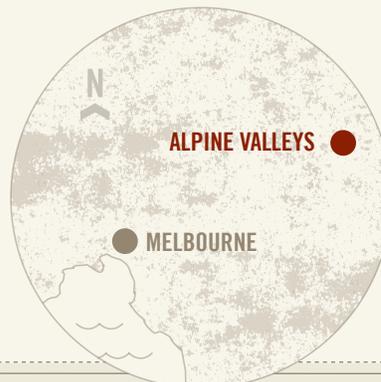
TASTING NOTES:

Not for the faint of heart, this zippy Riesling is floral and weighted, with notes of lime sorbet, rose petals and a hint of fennel. With its racy verve, subtle complexity and just a tinge of sweetness, its a perfect companion for both sweet and spicy dishes...or simply on its own. Refreshingly complex on the palate, it will make you wonder how you emptied your glass so quickly - and have you reaching for another.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

2012 - Not yet reviewed. 2011 - 88 pts Wine Spectator, 86 pts/Best Buy Wine Enthusiast

ABOUT THAT NAME... At one of the blending sessions, a cellar hand wanted to taste the wines 'blind'. Not being able to cover the labels, he made a makeshift blindfold from a lab cloth and told his colleague to pour the wines into a few glasses. Reaching for the wine glasses he inadvertently 'frisked' them to make sure he had a firm grip (a point duly noted by his co-workers in snickering tones) and then proceeded to tell all and sundry that he got a kick out of the 'prickle' of the wine as he swallowed. And so for a wine that is indeed fresh, frisky and just a touch prickly, it's quite an apt name. Need we say more?



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