



2006 KILIKANOON TESTAMENT SHIRAZ

WINEMAKER:	Kevin Mitchell
REGION:	Barossa Valley, South Australia
VARIETALS:	Shiraz
MATURATION:	24 months in small, new & older French & American oak casks

BACKGROUND:

Fruit for Kilikanoon's Testament Shiraz is grown on an estate-owned vineyard in the Barossa Valley, 75 miles south of Kilikanoon's Clare Valley vineyards. Here the climate is somewhat warmer, a great deal more continental, and the soils vary from the rustic Terra Rossa and slate soils of Clare to sandy, red loams lying over clay. The Testament is one of a band of three varietal soulmates in the Kilikanoon portfolio, alongside the Parable (McLaren Vale) and Covenant (Clare Valley) Shirazes. These three wines clearly showcase the regional diversity present in South Australian Shiraz.

WINEMAKING:

Hand-harvested fruit is fermented in individual-batches in small open vessels. To aid in gentle color and tannin extraction, the wine is gently basket pressed prior to maturation in new and older French and American oak for a period of 24 months.

TASTING NOTES:

Testament expresses the opulence and density expected of wines from the legendary Barossa Valley region. A nose of great intensity, ripe mulberry and cherry notes lead, complexed by clove spices and spicy oak. The textured palate is likewise intense, offering roasted plums, quality dark chocolate and sweet molasses, all pulled together by ripe, gritty tannins and balanced acidity.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 94pts Robert Parker's The Wine Advocate, 92 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 91 pts Wine Enthusiast

ABOUT KILIKANOON:

Founded in 1997 by Kevin Mitchell, Kilikanoon is a boutique Clare Valley winery with an international reputation for producing regionally expressive, terroir-driven wines. The Kilikanoon property, featuring a circa 1860s stone cottage housing Kilikanoon tasting room, was originally settled by early English migrants who named it after an historic old mansion in Cornwall. On purchasing the property in the 1990s, Kevin Mitchell inherited 30 year old Shiraz, Cabernet, Grenache and Riesling vineyards, many of which were planted by his father, Mort, in the 1960s. Fifteen years on, with the addition of partners Nathan Waks, a principal cellist with the Sydney Symphony, and Bruce Baudinet, Managing Director of Oracle Estates, Kilikanoon is rated by US and Australian critics as one of the Clare Valley's outstanding wineries, producing bracingly intense and long-lived Rieslings, along with powerful, yet balanced, Shiraz, Grenache and Cabernet Sauvignon.



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