



## 2008 KILIKANOON COVENANT SHIRAZ

<b>WINEMAKER:</b>	Kevin Mitchell
<b>REGION:</b>	Clare Valley, South Australia
<b>VARIETALS:</b>	Shiraz
<b>MATURATION:</b>	24 months in French oak barriques (35% new)
<b>ALCOHOL:</b>	14.7% alc/vol

### WINEMAKING:

The fruit for the Covenant Shiraz was hand-picked from four dry-grown premium vineyards with an average vine age of 30 to 40 years, located in the Clare Valley. Traditional methods of vinification were used with fermentation taking place in small open fermenters followed by a gentle basket pressing.

### TASTING NOTES:

A challenging year with a superb February that was cool and progressive followed by a very hot early March. Thoughtful and deliberate decisions to reduce intake were made that maximized this wine's quality through careful blending of the Shiraz lots. The 2008 Covenant is bright red in color with youthful crimson hues. The nose exudes notes of licorice, coffee grinds and savory, black olives married with spicy French oak char. Dark, spicy aromas carry over impressively to the palate. Its seamless mouthfeel and textural qualities combine seductively with the oak to provide a lingering, fine grained finish.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** 92 pts/*Editors' Choice* Wine Enthusiast, 91 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar, 90 pts Wine Spectator, 90 pts eRobertParker.com

### 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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