

2016 YERINGBERG

YERINGBERG (BORDEAUX BLEND)



WINEMAKER:

Guill and Sandra de Pury

REGION:

Yarra Valley, Victoria

VARIETALS:

Cabernet Sauvignon (59%), Cabernet Franc (15%)
Merlot (10%), Petit Verdot (9%), Malbec (7%)

MATURATION:

23 months in 100% French oak barriques(40% new)

ANALYSIS:

14.0% alc/vol | 6.0 g/L TA | 3.58 pH

WINEMAKING: Yeringberg is always a 'field' blend, ie the vineyard and the vintage determine the final blend, not the winemaker. This is the 43rd consecutive vintage. The vines were planted from 1969 - 2002, and the average vine age is well over 35 years. The fermenting musts were hand-plunged every eight hours during the fermentation to keep the cap moist and gently extract flavor and tannins. The wine was allowed to macerate on the skins for up to three weeks before pressing for further tannin extraction and development. The wines were blended together in stainless tanks and completed a slow malolactic fermentation. It was transferred in May to French oak barriques (Allier & Tronçais). The wine stayed in these barrels (40% new) for 23 months, with several rackings and was lightly fined before bottling.

TASTING NOTES: A wine that has always more than the sum of its parts, and one that continues as a flag bearer for the merits of blending. Deeply fruited, with notes of blackcurrant, blood plum, violet and clove, the nose also has notes of tapenade, cacao, graphite and cigar box. There's nothing showy here and not an eyelash out of place - it's grown up, sophisticated, a perfectly pressed suit. The palate has an equally effortless quality to it - there's a tightrope walk of weightlessness, energy and palate staining intensity that somehow manages to avoid being a contradiction.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM: 94 pts JamesSuckling.com

ABOUT YERINGBERG: Yeringberg was established in 1863 on pristine, cool climate vineyards in the Coldstream area of Yarra Valley. Guill de Pury and daughter Sandra make wines for the new millennium from the low-yielding vines re-established in the heart - just nine acres - of what was one of the most famous (and infinitely larger) vineyards of the 19th century. In the riper years, the red wines have a velvety generosity of flavor rarely encountered, while never losing varietal character; the long-lived Marsanne Roussanne takes students of history back to Yeringberg's fame in the 19th century.

