



2009 KILIKANOON MORT'S BLOCK RIESLING

Review Summary



94 pts - Best of the Best by Variety “A flowery bouquet leads into an elegant and fine palate, with flavors of lime, lemon and green apple neatly tied together with crisp acidity.”

**James Halliday’s Australian Wine Companion
2011**

94 pts “One of the constantly excellent Clare Rieslings, this is on point again in 2009. Really fragrant lime and lemon citrus, some yellow grapefruit here too; this has superb clarity. The palate is super-crisp with more lemon and some faint herbal notes, crackling with acidity; it finishes clean and brisk.”

**Nick Stock, The Penguin Good Australian Wine Guide
2010**

92 pts “At more than three years of age, this wine remains tightly coiled and poised for at least a decade of developmental improvement. Aromas and flavors of green apple and citrus are already alluring, and the uncompromisingly dry finish is long and mouth watering, with waves of steely acidity that provide the wine with remarkable linear drive. I’ve tasted Rieslings from South Australia’s Clare Valley that were still unbelievably fresh after 20 years, and much more complex thanks to long ageing, and this is almost sure to fit that description someday—if you can manage to keep your hands off of it for long enough.”

**Michael Franz, WineReviewOnline.com
November 13, 2012**

92 pts “One of my biggest surprises tasting wines was discovering how good Australian Riesling is. The conventional wisdom is that Australia is hot (an overly broad generalization), and that Riesling needs cool climate (not always, it turns out). This Riesling from the Watervale section, a well-known area for producing outstanding Riesling in Clare Valley, is sensational. Fresh, dry and mineral, it’s long and gracious. Citrus elements amplify the finish and complement the edgy minerality. This is a firm, bracing style of Riesling without a hint of sweetness.”

**Michael Apstein, WineReviewOnline.com
October 16, 2011**



91 pts “Tight, bright and refreshing for its lime-scented apple and floral flavors that don’t quit on the zingy finish.”

Harvey Steiman, Wine Spectator
June 15, 2010

91 pts “This Watervale Riesling has a richness of texture, along with complex, along with complex scents of orange blossom, lime, lemongrass and honey. The flavors come in layers across the palate, clean and mouthwatering. For Cantonese seafood dishes, such as clams with black bean sauce.”

Joshua Greene, Wine & Spirits Magazine
October 2010

91 pts “The winery has always excelled with Riesling from the Clare Valley. The 2009 Mort’s Block Riesling is light straw-colored with a splendid nose of mineral, spring flowers, lemon-lime and other citrus aromas that jump from the glass. Just off-dry (1.4g/L RS), it is reminiscent of a high quality Mosel Kabinett.”

Jay Miller, Robert Parker’s The Wine Advocate
December 2009

90 pts “Lime pith, soil, a touch of Crayola and low chalky, quince fruit with a melon, floral top note. Broad and a touch fleshy on entry, this then snaps the acidity whip and it cuts through the fruit like a laser, driving right through to the lemony finish. Shows flashes of peach, tea and chalk. This has a nice amount of flesh with bright flavors supported by the blazing acidity, which keeps the finish going and going.”

Gregory Dal Piaz, Snooth.com
2012

90 pts “The Claire Valley is renowned in Australia (and the Riesling-drinking world) for its dry, crisp mineral-laced Rieslings. This one from Kilikanoon is no exception. Tank fermented and free of any wood, it has a brilliant light gold color, delicate aromas of Granny Smith apples and citrus zest and dry flavors with medium fruit, tangy acidity, 12.5% alcohol and good length. Packed with fruit and balanced with mouth-watering acidity, this Claire Riesling is a good choice for summer dining.”

Gerald D. Boyd, Wine Review Online
August 9, 2011

90 pts “Pale, green-tinged yellow. Lively aromas of lemon zest, mint and chalk are complemented by white pepper and quinine. Dusty, sharply focused citrus and herb flavors gain sweetness in the mid-palate, showing deeper tangerine and pear nuances. The brisk finish features a strong echo of spicy herbs. I find this extremely easy to drink.”

Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar
July/August 2010



Wine of The Week “The Kilikanoon “Mort’s Block” ‘09 falls into the dry and delicate category, but by “delicate” I don’t mean fragile or wimpy. Instead, this is a riesling of shattering purity and intensity that offers scintillating aromas of roasted lemon, lime peel and grapefruit with a hint of the grape’s requisite petrol accent. It’s an incredibly crisp and lively riesling, with attractive lift and elevation, exhibiting a sort of (I mean) acid, sea-salt and limestone-borne surge of cleansing and quenching freshness, all of this underscored by gravelly earthiness. To flavors of green apple and lemon, the wine adds hints of pear and mango and whiffs, in the bouquet, of apple blossom. Pretty damned irresistible. Excellent.”

Fredric Koeppel, BiggerThanYourHead.net
June 7, 2010

GOLD MEDAL

2009 Royal Adelaide Wine Show

★★★ “Founded in 1997, Kilikanoon has become a long way in a relatively short time. This wine is a textbook example of crisp, dry and mineral rich Clare Valley Riesling, and it’s utterly delicious. Tart green apple, sweet pineapple and honeysuckle flavors and perfectly integrated and refined.”

Anthony Giglio, Food & Wine Wine Guide
2011

“Cold nights in the Watervale sub-region produce zesty, pure whites, as this mineral example illustrates.”

Food & Wine, Wine Guide
2013

“Pleasantly gamey aromas are followed by floral notes. Complex and elegant, this wine offers crisp lemon-cream flavors, nice touches of skin tannin around the edges, and a slight tanginess on the finish.”

Roger Morris, Sommelierjournal.com – ‘Australian Rieslings’
August 31, 2012

“Vibrant, mineral-laden lime and green apple flavors have a pleasant hint of petrol.”

Food & Wine, Wine Guide
2012

“A lone 2009, Mort’s Block is a majestic, muscular Riesling, with power and intensity which is frankly unnerving beside the expressive youthful 2010s. For this reason, it is crucial to track down this wine in order not only to highlight the wonderful differences between the two vintages at the highest level, but also to counterpoint the vivacity of the 2010s with the nobility and structure that his wine brings to the table.”

Matthew Jukes, 100 Best Australian Wines
2011