2010 Cabernet Merlot

Vintage Description:

The lead-up to the 2010 vintage provided warm days without excessive heat and cool evenings for steady ripening. The result was fruit that came in with ripe flavours, balanced acidity and excellent tannin.

Winemaking Information:

After closely monitoring ripening, the fruit was harvested at optimum ripeness and flavour profile. The 12-day ferment program included daily pump-overs and juice aeration. This resulted in excellent colour and tannin extraction before the wine was pressed off its skins. Separate portions were then aged for 12 months in a selection of new and older French barriques. A final blend was decided using those parcels that typify a soft and elegant Great Southern Cabernet Merlot.

Fruit Source:	Great Southern, Western Australia		
Blend:	85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Merlot		
Wine Specifications:	pH: 3.50	TSO2:	80mgL^{-1}
	T.A.: 6.50gL^{-1}	ALC:	14.0%
	FSO2: 30mgL^{-1}	Residual Sugar:	2.0gL^{-1}

Tasting Note

Colour:	Dark rich plum, with a vibrant hue.
Aroma:	Intense berry fruits with an integrated oak complexity.
Palate:	Dark ripe berries with subtle plum characters. The palate is elegant and long, combining subtle toasted oak, powdery tannins and a long berry fruit finish.
Cellar Potential:	Drink now or cellar for up to 3 years.

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