

## THE VINEYARD 2006 MERLOT

**VINTAGE:** 2006  
**VARIETY:** Merlot  
**REGION:** Myall Park, Riverina  
**WINEMAKER:** Sam Trimboli

### TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Alcohol: 13.5%  
PH: 3.38  
Total Acid: 6.33g/l

### VINTAGE REPORT

A mild and wet winter continued through spring with higher than average rainfalls. These good spring conditions ensured a good fruit set and vibrant, healthy vine growth. Unseasonally very hot and dry conditions prevailed through December until after harvest which curtailed the promising yields. Vintage began approximately two weeks later than the previous year with the Dayleswood Chambourcin starting on Feb 15 and the first whites i.e. Dayleswood Chardonnay, starting on Feb 22. Harvest weather remained hot and dry where Dayleswood concluded the 2006 vintage by March 15.

### VINIFICATION

Machine harvested in early March, the fruit was crushed and de-stemmed into static fermenters where it was immediately inoculated with a yeast strain designed to enhance colour and varietal character. Fermentation progressed for approximately 6 days between 20 – 25 degrees centigrade. Draining and pressing occurred at 1 baume. Primary fermentation concluded in stainless steel with induced malolactic fermentation shortly after. The wine was stabilised at 4°C then racked and coarsely filtered then aged on French Oak for 3 months. The wine was filtered again and prepared for bottling.

### TASTING NOTES

Medium crimson with vibrant purple hues. A rich, fleshy bouquet of boysenberry mint and spicy chocolate, soft full flavoured ripe berry characters are supported by refined and subtle tannins on the palate. Fruit and oak tannins provide a well balanced wine with a delicious mouth filling persistent flavour.

**FOOD RECOMMENDATION:** Try Coq au vin or pan fried veal fillet. Also great with pasta, bbq's, tangy cheeses and all red and white meats.

**CELLARING:** Drink now or short term cellaring, 0 - 3 years.

**WINEMAKERS QUOTE:** "Delicious Easy drinking style suitable for any occasion. Soft and quaffable never any disappointment!"

