

PEREGRINE RIDGE

2008 Peregrine Ridge American Oak Blend Heathcote Shiraz

"Good colour; this is a classic curate's egg: there is some wonderful fruit here, but why choose American oak which suits warm-region shiraz so much better than cool, and why add another level of flavour sweetness via the alcohol? It's very seductive, and will give lots of enjoyment, but what about finesse?"

JAMES HALLIDAY AUSTRALIAN WINE COMPANION 2012 Edition

Region: Heathcote, Victoria

Winemakers: Graeme Quigley & Sue Kerrison

Background: Our "American Oak Blend" is a single vineyard wine that showcases the use of American oak barrels. Small parcels of fruit were carefully selected during the winemaking process and matched to barrel at the press. The 2008 was matured in 65% new and 35% second use barrels for 20 months prior to bottling. The wine shows the diversity that can be achieved on our unique terroir on the east side of the Mt Camel Range 25km north of Heathcote. The grapes were hand picked over a 2 week period from 9 March to 24 March at the optimum ripeness for each block. All fruit was small batch fermented for between 10 and 15 days and then immediately pressed via basket press to barrel.

Vintage conditions: 2008 was a hot season that followed a warm, dry Spring. Vine growth was good and even throughout the vineyard. Summer was generally warm to hot and relatively dry throughout the ripening season. This produced small, concentrated berries with rich plum fruit flavours. During the mid March heatwave we ceased picking and resumed when cooler conditions prevailed in late March. These growing conditions have produced an intense wine with spicy, rich fruit character and high natural acidity.

Colour: Dense glass staining purple with purple to garnet hue.

Nose: Rich, sweet spicy plum and vanilla bean leading to soft cedar and plum pudding overtones.

Palate: Full bodied, mouth filling and lifted, with intense dark plum fruit, spicy vanilla bean and soft cedary oak. The fusion of fruit and supportive oak is seamless and delivers rich fruit flavours to the front and middle palate. The wine finishes with a soft, fresh after palate.

Alc/Vol: 15.1%v/v Bottled under screw cap Packed in 6x750ml cartons

