

PIKES

CLARE VALLEY

Established 1984

2024 'THE MERLE' RESERVE RIESLING

WINEMAKER'S NOTE

After an average winter rainfall, our soil profile was full, giving the vines a great start to the growing season. Following early bud burst, a bad frost event hit some parts of the valley in late October. Spring was dry, but thunderstorms in November and December helped setup our vine canopies. A warm, dry harvest with low disease pressure allowed grape intake to run extremely smoothly. Riesling yields were slightly above average.

Named after the family matriarch, 'The Merle' is selected from the best parcels of Riesling from our Polish Hill River Estate. This wine is intended to showcase the purest expression our estate grown Riesling from the vintage.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Fruit Source: Estate Grown

Variety: Riesling

Vintage: 2024

Region: Polish Hill River, Clare Valley

Fermentation: 100% free run juice, fermented with neutral yeast in stainless steel, 4 months on lees post fermentation

Alc/Vol 11.5% **RS** 3.4 g/L

pH 2.90 **TA** 8.11 g/L

ABOUT PIKES

Pikes Wines is grounded by family. From brothers to sons, since 1984 when the Pike family first stepped foot on Polish Hill River soil and decided to make wine together.

Our site is unique, with tough acidic soils overlaying ancient dark grey siltstone of the Kadlunga Slate formation, which has lay beneath Polish Hill River for 650 million years.

Our wine style is elegant and refined, yet approachable. A style that has been forged over many years by geology and geography, viticultural learnings, and a hands-off winemaking approach.

Pikes Tasting Room

233 Polish Hill Road, Sevenhill, South Australia 5453

T 08 8843 4370 | W pikeswines.com.au

Tasting Room: open daily, from 10am - 4pm

Slate Restaurant: Lunch from 12pm Wed - Sun, Dinner from 6pm Sat

TASTING NOTES

Appearance: Brilliant clarity, slight green hues.

Aroma: Lime pith and green apple roll out, with some classic Merle notes of Kaffir lime leaf, jasmine blossom and talcy elements hinting minerality lifting easily in support.

Palate: Bright yet concentrated lime juice, with a touch of pink grapefruit generosity in the mouthfeel, all framed around a ground ginger note with the Polish Hill River's famous minerality and lime leaf florals providing backbone.

Summary: A brilliant release of this iconic wine with it's power and length on show from the start, yet a delicacy across the palate balancing long-term potential without sacrificing immediate approachability. Chill and enjoy immediately, or hide away for 10+ years and savour the gifts of patience offered by aged Clare Valley Riesling.

Incredibly versatile but this South Australian benchmark works famously with another South Aussie icon in King George Whiting, prepared however you best enjoy it and served with a big wedge of lemon.

