

PIKES

CLARE VALLEY

Established 1984

2026 'TRADITIONALE' RIESLING

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

The Cold conditions delayed budburst by two weeks, followed by a cool spring and severe frost on 13 November across our Polish Hill River estate. With estimated crop losses of up to 85%, the season was potentially the most challenging in Pikes' history. Fortunately, other Clare Valley subregions were less affected. Our established growers and a few new grower partners helped us secure additional fruit to offset the estate shortfall. Unaffected vines remained healthy and balanced, with warm January conditions supporting steady ripening. Harvest began 16 days later than 2025, with four rain interruptions testing our growers, vineyard and winemaking team. Despite these challenges, low disease pressure helped maintain excellent fruit quality, delivering bright acidity, purity and concentration.

WINEMAKING INFORMATION

Fruit sourced from our own estate in Polish Hill River, and growers' vineyards in Watervale, Leasingham, Mintaro and Sevenhill. Made exclusively with free run juice, our aim is to capture the flavour of the individual sites with minimal winemaking influence being evident.

Fruit Source: Estate & Growers

Variety: Riesling

Vintage: 2026

Region: Clare Valley

Fermentation: 100% free run juice, neutral yeast, rested on fermentation lees for 3 months prior to bottling

Alc/Vol 11% **RS** 4.5 g/L

pH 2.9 **TA** 8.1 g/L

TASTING NOTES

Appearance: Water white with the faintest green hues and brilliant clarity.

Aroma: Perfumed lemon blossom opens into fresh lime juice and lime cordial, with Granny Smith apple and subtle green tropical fruit notes adding depth to the citrus-led bouquet.

Palate: Bright lime juice characters lead into the fuller flavours of lime cordial. Generous fruit gives the palate an inviting richness, balanced by a fine, persistent acid line that maintains freshness and definition. A lovely mineral finish draws the flavours out with clarity and length.

Summary: Our 42nd release of Traditionale Riesling is a testament to the dedication of our growers and the skill of our vineyard and winemaking team. From these challenging conditions, we believe we have crafted a wine that upholds the quality and distinctive style for which Traditionale is respected—generous citrus fruit, balanced acidity and a fine mineral finish.

Immensely approachable upon release but will comfortably cellar for 10+ years. Perfectly matched with freshly shucked South Australian Oysters, dressed simply with a squeeze of lemon.

