



WINTER CREEK  
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*Wines of Elegance and Finesse from the Barossa Valley and the Adelaide Hills*

## 2009 Fiddlesticks Merlot

A clumsy, yet polite waiter would exclaim "oh fiddlesticks" as he almost drops the tray... not because of the breakage of glass, but for the waste of a fabulous wine.

Magenta with vibrant purple hues, the Fiddlesticks Merlot displays aromas of fruit pastille and dark cherry with hints of raspberry and anise. The palate is fruit driven with soft jubeey fruit and silky tannins with the characteristic suppleness and mid palate weight generosity that we expect from Merlot. The wine finishes with lingering flavours of mixed red berries and spice.

### Winemaking

Fermentation was carried out in a combination of static and rotary fermenters under warm temperature conditions for a period of six days. This created good balance between extracting the appropriate tannin for wine structure and retaining fruit drive and aromatics in the final blend. The wine was stored at 6C° post fermentation to retain natural colour and aromatics for the variety.

### Vintage

With drought conditions and low water allocations from the Murray it looked like it would be a challenging vintage again for red wines from South Australia. However after a heat spike at the end of January, the rest of the ripening season was relatively mild.

Flavour developed early in the vineyards, leading to grapes being picked at lower baume than previous vintages but still with ripe tannins and good length of flavour.

### Technical Data

<b>Region</b>	South Australia	<b>Harvest Date</b>	February and March 2009
<b>Grape Varieties</b>	Merlot	<b>Alcohol</b>	13.5%
<b>TA</b>	6 g/l	<b>pH</b>	3.42

