

YALUMBA

"The Virgilius" Eden Valley Viognier 2000

Virgilius (70-19BC). Considered the greatest of the Roman poets, Virgilius' patron was the celebrated first Emperor of Rome, Augustus. Virgilius' works include the 'Eclogues' or 'Bucolics', celebrating the charm of rural life and the 'Georgics' an agricultural poem which includes references to grape growing. His magnum opus, 'The Aeneid', was published posthumously. A literary masterpiece, this epic poem's influence continues through to modern times.

The Yalumba Wine Company has pioneered the development of Viognier in Australia. The evolution of Yalumba's pre-eminent white wine - "The Virgilius" is the culmination of 20 years of work with this demanding Rhone variety. Yalumba began planting Viognier in 1980 which was the first commercial planting of the variety in Australia.

Yalumba 'The Virgilius' 2000 is pale gold in colour with lovely green highlights. The nose shows intense scented perfume aromas with musk and apricot nectar. Lifted ginger spice is layered on the palate with a mineral texture and complex stone fruit flavours.

WINEMAKING / VITICULTURE

The 2000 Vintage was a challenge for all Eden Valley winemakers. Following a windy flowering period in Spring 1999, very low crops were set on the Viognier vines. Before the grapes were ripe, significant rains fell creating the potential for disease and loss of crop and quality. The following warm drying weather averted disaster and the fruit remained on the vines to ripen perfectly over the summer achieving high sugars and intense flavours. After harvest, the fruit was pressed directly into barrels, and the juice handled with controlled oxidation. The wine was fermented with indigenous yeasts in mature French oak barrels. After fermentation the wine was aged on lees for nine months to increase the complexity and flavour generosity of the wine.

WINEMAKER PROFILE

Named 1999 Barossa Winemaker of the Year and nominated for the 2000 Qantas/Wine Magazine Winemaker of the Year Award, Louisa Rose is one of Australia's most acclaimed up-and-coming young winemakers. As Yalumba's white winemaker, Louisa is responsible for all the white wines in the Yalumba portfolio. In particular, she has achieved widespread recognition for her work with Viognier.

PRESS REVIEWS / AWARDS

'For a taste of Australian viognier at its very best, keep your eyes out for 2000 Virgilius. Take note that most of the 1999 Virgilius was grabbed from the shelves almost as soon as it arrived, so you'll have to be quick on the draw.'

Robert Joseph, The Sunday Telegraph (London), 11 February 2001



The Virgilius

Vintage Information

Vintage:	2000
Region:	Eden Valley, SA
Winemaker:	Louisa Rose
Harvested:	2nd April 2000
Oak treatment:	Fermented and matured in older French oak hogsheads
Alc/Vol:	14.5 %
Total Acid:	5.7 g/L
pH:	3.38

