

In 1965, the members of the Stock Exchange Club of Adelaide dined at the South Australian Hotel. The guest of honour was Sir Robert Menzies. During his speech, Sir Robert declared the 1961 Yalumba Galway Vintage Special Reserve Claret, "to be the finest Australian wine I have ever tasted".

In April 1987, Yalumba harvested the first grapes from a Coonawarra vineyard known as the Menzies block. These fateful coincidences prompted the first release of Yalumba "The Menzies" Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon on the 15th May 1990.

Here for your enjoyment is the fourth release, a fitting tribute to a consummate politician who was also a good judge of quality red wine!

Winemaker's Notes:

The most ideal vintage conditions seen for many years in Coonawarra, have led to a powerful, intense Menzies that is the best release to date. The same production techniques as used previously were employed again in 1990. A portion picked early and fermented cool with the balance being left to fully ripen before harvesting. Fermentation and subsequent maturation in American oak for a total of 22 months has added another dimension of strength to an already rich wine.

Winemaker's Comments:

"The assemblage of the two portions has created a wine which is plum/cherry red in colour, with sweet lifted aromas of wild berries combined with toasty vanillan oak. The palate has great fruit sweetness and length with supple oak tannins and firm acid. Recommended cellaring of ten years plus."

Technical:

Harvested:

March/April 1990

Wood:

22 months - 30 per cent in new American oak

Alcohol: Total Acid: 12 % 5.7 g/l

Bottled:

August 1992

-B W Walsh-Chief Winemaker S D Adams-Red Winemaker