



The inaugural release of "The Menzies" Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon 1987 was in May of 1990. Like the consummate politician and red wine aesthete after whom the wine is named, Sir Robert Gordon Menzies, "The Menzies" has continued to grow in stature, quality and renown in Australia and internationally. This popularity has prompted Yalumba to purchase two blocks of terra rossa soil in the Coonawarra. The original "Menzies" block and "the Hawthorns" block, with a combined area of forty hectares, will enable us to better master our destiny in both quality and quantity of "The Menzies".

Winemaker's Comments:

"Over the years we have been learning that with this vineyard the fruit that we let hang to achieve optimum maturity is consistently better structured than the early picked material. Hence, from 1992 onwards we are not taking any "early" fruit which traditionally provided lift on the nose. The wines now take much longer to start to develop the "regional DMS" (green leafy) character and are typically richer, more fuller bodied styles than the years 1987-1991."

Simon Adams

Tasting Notes:

Youthful plum red in colour. The very scented nose comprises plums, red berries and mocha oak. Medium bodied on the palate it has great sweetness coming from ripe fruit and also 23 months oak maturation. Cellaring potential is estimated at 5 to 8 years.

Technical:

Harvested: April 1992
Wood: American oak 23 months
(1/3 new, 1/3 1 year old, 1/3 2 year old)
Alcohol: 13 %
Total Acid: 6.1 g/l
Bottled: September 1994