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Bellingham Ancient Earth Merlot 2010

Dark ruby with a vibrant strawberry edge opening with ripe red cherry and summer berry fruit aromas layered with earthy forest floor and hints of cacao supported by spicy oak intrigue and sleek ripe tannins through to a smooth and succulent gentle finish.

Delicious on its own or with seared duck breast with plum and ginger compote, Chinese five spice roast pork belly or wild mushroom ragout.

variety : Merlot | 100% Merlot
winery : Bellingham Wines
winemaker : Niel Groenewald & Mario Damon
wine of origin :
analysis : **alc :** 14.0 % vol **rs :** 4.5 g/l **pH :** 3.33 **ta :** 6.15 g/l
type : Red **style :** Dry **wooded**
pack : Bottle **size :** 0 **closure :** Screwcap

2012 Veritas Wine Awards - Bronze Medal

ageing : Soft and approachable for immediate drinking although the structure will allow for further development for up to 5 years from vintage.

in the vineyard : This Merlot grows in granite dominated soils.

2010 was a short, hot vintage with typically small concentrated bunches of flavourful fruit that produced fine red wines.

about the harvest: Harvested by hand at optimal ripeness (between 24° and 25°B)in early March.

in the cellar : Crushed and fermented on the skins with gentle pump-overs before going to barrel where malolactic fermentation is completed. Very gentle wood maturation took place in older French oak for 12 months before final blending and bottling at our cellar.

Bellingham Wines
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