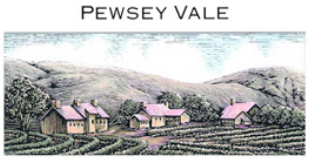
Pewsey Vale

Crafted from Pewsey Vale's oldest vines, the 1961 Block Riesling captures the essence of Eden Valley terroir. Its wild fermentation and lees aging impart a textural complexity that complements its vibrant acidity and striking mineral backbone.



1961 Block Riesling 2024

Eden Valley, Australia

Region and Vineyards

The **Eden Valley** is part of South Australia's famed Barossa wine region, renowned for producing world-class Rieslings. At an elevation of approximately 500 meters above sea level, this region enjoys a cooler climate, ideal for growing Riesling. The combination of cool nights and warm days helps to preserve the vibrant acidity while promoting the development of complex flavors.

The **Pewsey Vale Vineyard**, established in 1847, holds a legacy of producing exceptional Riesling, with some of the vines used in the 1961 Block being among the oldest in the area. These vines benefit from the diverse and well-drained soils of the region, which consist primarily of **weathered loams and quartzite**. This soil composition contributes to the wine's signature minerality. Sustainable viticulture is practiced on the estate, enhancing the vineyard's biodiversity and ensuring minimal intervention is required in the winemaking process.

Winemaking

The **1961 Block Riesling** is crafted with a focus on showcasing the purity of the fruit. The grapes are handpicked from the **oldest vines** on the Pewsey Vale estate, ensuring that only the finest fruit is selected. Following harvest in **February**, the juice undergoes a **wild fermentation**, meaning that only indigenous yeasts from the vineyard are used. This process adds an additional layer of complexity and a sense of place to the wine.

After fermentation, the wine is **aged on fine lees** for several months, which imparts a subtle creaminess to the texture while allowing the Riesling's natural acidity and vibrant fruit characteristics to shine. The wine was then bottled with **minimal intervention**, highlighting the estate's philosophy of allowing the vineyard to speak for itself through the wine.

Alcohol :12,50 %

Composition: 100% Riesling

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PEWSEY VALE

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: The wine is a pale lemon with green hues, reflecting its youth and vibrancy.
- **Aroma**: A captivating bouquet of **lemon myrtle**, **tea tree blossom**, and hints of fresh lime zest interwoven with a pronounced **quartz-like minerality**.
- **Palate**: On the palate, the wine is pristine and taut, delivering flavors of **citrus**, particularly lemon and lime, with a subtle herbal note of **eucalyptus**. The mouthfeel is elegant yet firm, with a remarkable **mineral-driven finish** that adds length and complexity. The wine's **vibrant acidity** provides great aging potential, while its delicate texture makes it enjoyable now.

Did You Know?

The **1961 Block** was planted in the year **1961**, marking a significant milestone in Pewsey Vale's history. This block has become a symbol of the estate's commitment to crafting wines that reflect both the heritage of the vineyard and modern winemaking techniques. The wine's name honors the rich legacy of these vines, which have survived through generations of careful cultivation.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Kingfish sashimi with chilli lime dressing**: The citrus brightness of the wine complements the delicate flavors of the sashimi, while its acidity cuts through the richness of the fish.
- **Vegetable spring rolls with Vietnamese herbs**: The herbal notes of the wine mirror the fresh herbs, while its minerality enhances the dish's light, crispy texture.
- **Goat cheese tart with caramelized onions**: The wine's acidity balances the creaminess of the cheese, and its citrusy character complements the sweetness of the caramelized onions.
- **Prawn and fennel salad**: The bright citrus and mineral backbone of the Riesling pairs beautifully with the aniseed flavors of fennel and the sweetness of fresh prawns.

95 James Suckling

James Suckling (JS) : 95 Points (2022)

A cool, voluminous year. Pointed scents of bosc apple, lemon drop, mint, spiced quince and brown pear. As phenolic as it is fresh, this is reminiscent of a structured, gently mid-weighted Alsatian style, more savory and toothsome than the Australian norm. Quite excellent. Old vine vinosity breeds length and a latent forcefulness that never, mercifully, digresses from an elegant, juicy acid trail across the palate. Very fine Australian riesling.

PEWSEY VALE

1961 Block Riesling 2024

James Suckling (JS) : 96 Points (2021)

An Australian dry riesling that you really want to linger over. So much lemon blossom and lemon balm on the nose. Very subtle on the medium-bodied palate, with delicate citrus and white-nectarine fruit. It sounds like a contradiction, but this has a wonderfully filigree mouth-feel at the super-stony finish. From 60-year-old vines planted in 1961.

Robert Parker (RP) : 95 Points (2021)

The 2021 1961 Block Riesling leads with nettle-like acidity in the mouth, while the fruit holds a more placid court in the mid-palate. This is plump and pillowy, yet it has mineral definition and intensity of flavor. It's all on the back palate and lingering. Very good indeed. This has a conservative drinking window.