



## Pewsey Vale

The Pewsey Vale The Contours 10 Years Museum Release Riesling 2012 showcases the remarkable aging potential of Eden Valley Riesling. After a decade in the bottle, this wine offers a perfect balance of citrus freshness, complex secondary flavors, and mineral depth, making it an extraordinary expression of bottle-aged Riesling.

PEWSEY VALE



Alcohol :12,50 %

Composition: 100% Riesling

## The Contours 10 Years Museum Release 2012

Eden Valley, Australia

### Region and Vineyards

The **Eden Valley**, located in South Australia's Barossa region, is renowned for its cool-climate Rieslings. At an elevation of approximately **1,500 feet (457 meters)**, the high altitude of Pewsey Vale Vineyard provides ideal conditions for producing exceptional Rieslings, characterized by vibrant acidity and concentrated flavors. The **grey sandy loam** soils contribute to the distinctive minerality of the wines, while the vineyard's cool slopes encourage slow ripening, allowing the grapes to develop intense flavor complexity.

The vines used for **The Contours Riesling** are some of the oldest in the vineyard, carefully nurtured on the **coolest slope** of this rugged single-vineyard site. This terroir, combined with careful vine growing and astute winemaking, creates a wine that showcases both the purity of the fruit and the unique characteristics of the vineyard.

### Winemaking

The **2012 vintage** was challenging, with rainfall in Eden Valley during the growing season at less than **40% of the average**, and slightly higher-than-normal temperatures. These factors led to an early harvest, about a month ahead of schedule, but the fruit quality was excellent, resulting in a wine with concentrated **lime** and **citrus** flavors and beautiful natural acidity.

The juice was fermented in **stainless steel tanks**, with a pre-fermentation period of **1 to 4 days on solids** before the wild yeasts initiated fermentation. The wine did not undergo malolactic fermentation, preserving its crisp acidity. After fermentation, it was aged in the bottle for **10 years**, allowing the wine to develop the secondary characteristics that make it so unique. With an **alcohol content of 12.5%**, **residual sugar of 2 g/L**, and **acidity of 6.21 g/L**, this Riesling strikes the perfect balance between freshness and richness.



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## Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Pale straw with green hues, retaining remarkable freshness after 10 years of aging.
- **Aroma:** Intense aromas of **lime** and **lemon**, with a layer of **fresh toast** that complements the citrus. There are subtle hints of **sage oil** and a touch of developing **marmalade**.
- **Palate:** The palate is dominated by vibrant **lime juice** and citrus flavors, with underlying notes of **lemongrass**, **marmalade**, and a distinctive **crushed stone minerality**. Despite its age, the wine remains fresh and lively, with a rich, long finish and beautifully integrated acidity.

## Did You Know?

The **Pewsey Vale The Contours** is sealed under a **screw cap**, which preserves the wine's freshness and protects it from the variability often associated with cork. This allows the wine to undergo what is called "pure bottle aging," where the citrus freshness is maintained alongside the development of complex secondary flavors like toast, honey, and marmalade, without the wine becoming oxidized or dried out.

## Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Seared scallops with butter sauce:** The wine's bright citrus notes and mineral edge perfectly complement the richness of scallops and butter.
- **Smoky cauliflower soup:** The minerality and aged complexity of the Riesling balance the creamy texture and smoky flavors of the soup.



### Robert Parker (RP) : 98 Points (2012)

*At a decade old, this 2012 The Contours Riesling is superb. Just superb. It sings with creamed honey, honeysuckle, crushed shells, brine, green apple skins and layers of quinine, tobacco leaf and ash. Words are wasted on it. Bottle age has brought this into a magical space. It will easily reach its 20th birthday, and with patience, its 30th too.*



### James Halliday (JH) : 95 Points (2012)

*This contour-planted (1965) block of riesling, high in the Eden Valley has been the source of many a riesling epiphany. Pale to mid straw in the glass, with aromas of Bickford's lime, grapefruit pith, lemon zest. There's a complex array of underlying characters: preserved lemon, kaffir lime, beeswax, dried honey, lemon curd, crushed quartz, sage, soft spice, pressed flowers and almond paste. Toasty, long of finish and still boasting plenty of zesty drive, detail and clarity, it's just wonderful drinking.*





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**James Suckling (JS) : 95 Points (2012)**

*A beautiful mature Australian dry riesling, which shows the lime-marmalade and toast character we associate with these wines. However, there are also notes of green peppercorns, dill and chamomile. Long finish that's at once crisp and quite mellow (due to the bottle maturation). Still many years of life ahead of it.*

