



Wicks

ESTATE

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An idyllic Adelaide Hills vintage produces a couple of top reds for Wicks Estate

Wicks Estate 2010 Shiraz (\$20)

Wicks Estate 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon (\$20)

For Tim Wicks, partner and facilities manager at Wicks Estate, the Adelaide Hills 2010 vintage was essentially an idyllic one, even if it arrived earlier than normal and delivered lighter-than-usual crops.

“We didn’t need to rush, and we didn’t need to stress too much because we knew we were providing our winery manager Leigh Ratzmer and consultant winemaker Tim Knapstein with a steady flow of high-quality fruit.

“I guess it was a combination of early-season heat, plentiful soil moisture and those relatively low yields that brought ripening forward to the extent that we harvested cabernet in March for the first time.”

Winemaker at Wicks Estate Leigh Ratzmer likes to divide his red fruit into small parcels and build the complexity of the wine by using various yeasts, fermentation strategies and maturation regimes.

“It’s something we’ve always done and something we’ve continued to build on as the vines have become more mature and we’ve gained a great understanding about how different parts of the vineyard perform,” he said.

“There’s no doubt that the practice increases our workload in the winery but it also provides us with a myriad of options when we finally get to the tasting bench and put our blends together.”

For Tim’s brother Simon, the other half of the partnership and its marketing and export manager, there’s no doubt that the strategy is paying dividends.

“You only have to look at the performance of our reds in various forums,” he said.

“The 2010 Shiraz won a gold medal at last year’s Royal Adelaide Wine Show and our cabernets have been top of their class at the past couple of Adelaide Hills Wine Shows.”

Simon is grateful for quality of the 2010 vintage.

“It was a vintage that, especially in terms of red wines, stood us in great stead for the climatic horrors of 2011, when we decided not to produce any reds at all under our Wicks Estate label,” he said.

Wicks Estate wines are distributed in Australia by Angoves: South Australia & Northern Territory (08 8264 2366); New South Wales & Australian Capital Territory (02 9713 5180); Queensland (07 3394 3699); Victoria & Tasmania (03 9768 3022); Western Australia (1300 769 266).

If you require any further information, please contact Simon Wicks on 08 8212 0004 or email simonwicks@wicksestate.com.au. High-resolution product images can be downloaded from WineMedia’s website (www.winemedia.com.au).

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