

GIANT STEPS

YARRA VALLEY
AUSTRALIA

2003 MERLOT

Region

Yarra Valley, Australia

Variety

Merlot

Maturation

French oak

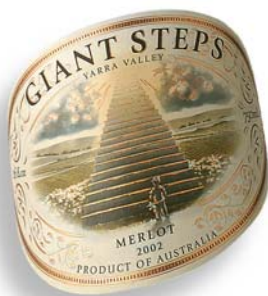
Technical Analysis

14% alc/vol

Background/ Vintage

Planted on one of the prime, last available, north facing slopes (and adjacent to the prestigious Yarra Yering vineyard) in Victoria's famed Yarra Valley, Giant Steps is the result of a lifetime search by proprietor Phil Sexton. Sexton has achieved legendary status in the Australian beverage industry, firstly revolutionizing micro-brewing with Matilda Bay Brewery and then founding a premium Margaret River vineyard that rose quickly to cult status before being purchased by Australia's largest wine company.

A cool, dry season assisted the maturation of this sometimes-difficult grape. Extended, yet controlled ripening, encourages development of the more sensual characters of the variety as opposed to the bigger, drier styles often typical of warmer climates.



Tasting Notes

Aromas of liquorice, blackcurrant, and floral characteristics with overlying violets are abundant.

On the palate the wine shows qualities of spicy dry leaf, twigs and cedar layered with chocolate, Satsuma, plums and Christmas cake. Finishes long, firm, dusty and finely structured.

Stellar aging potential.

Additional Notes:

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