

2011 Merlot Tasting Notes

Vintage:	2011
Variety:	Merlot
Region:	Lower Hunter Valley, NSW Australia
Vintage Conditions:	2011 was an outstanding vintage in the Hunter and was every grape farmer's dream – good yields of ripe fruit in pristine condition. The growing season saw above average rainfall which provided for good canopy growth and a fruitful flower set. January and February were hot and dry enabling the grapes to be harvested in excellent condition with great sugar and flavour levels.
Vintage Conditions:	The grapes were handpicked and sent to the winery in Pokolbin where they were destemmed, crushed, must chilled and fermented on skins for 6 days. The wine was then pressed off and matured in old French oak barrels for about 12 months, then the wine was blended, filtered and bottled. Alcohol content: 13%
Colour:	Deep red with purple hues
Nose:	Aromas of dark cherry, mulberry and herbs with a hint of chocolate
Palate:	This is a medium bodied wine with a good balance of vibrant berry, cherry and herb flavours. The palate is supple and elegant, with good mid-palate fruit weight, and a soft tannin finish.
Food Suggestions:	All red meats.
Cellaring Potential:	The 2011 Merlot was made to be enjoyed now, but can be confidently cellared for the medium term.

Ballimore Estate Wines 13 Luskintyre Rd, Lochinvar NSW 2321

T 02 4930 7805 Lic No LIQ880010083

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www.ballimorewines.com.au