ZEMA ESTATE



WINE REVIEW

Zema Estate Coonawarra Cluny Cabernet Merlot 2018

For me, this Coonawarra Cabernet Merlot Malbec Cabernet Franc blend stands out as the value buy from the Zema reds, which is saying something because this winery is a great source for cracking value from this famed region.

It doesn't hurt that it comes from a top vintage. The blend is 68%, 18%, 7% and 7% respectively. Fermentation of the fruit was for a week in a mix of rotary and static fermenters, before the juice was transferred to French hogsheads for 18 months. The colour is near black/magenta. Chocolate and herbs dominate the fragrant nose with mocha, coffee grinds and cassis. The structure is one of elegance, mid-weight and stylish, with a soft and seamless palate. Plenty of tannins here but there is a lovely softness to them plus a lingering finish.

Will drink very well over the next 8 to 10 years. A lovely example of the Bordeaux Blend style of red, done Coonawarra style, not to mention seriously good buying. A case in the cellar will make one very happy in the coming years.

RATING

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Ken Gargett, Winepilot, October 2022