

YALUMBA

The Virgilius Eden Valley Viognier 1999

Virgilius (70-19BC). Considered the greatest of the Roman poets, Virgilius' patron was the celebrated first Emperor of Rome, Augustus. Virgilius' works include the 'Eclogues' or 'Bucolics', celebrating the charm of rural life and the 'Georgics' an agricultural poem which includes references to grape growing. His magnum opus, 'The Aeneid', was published posthumously. A literary masterpiece, this epic poem's influence continues through to modern times.

The Yalumba Wine Company has pioneered the development of Viognier in Australia. The evolution of Yalumba's pre-eminent white wine - "The Virgilius" is the culmination of 20 years of work with this demanding Rhone variety. Yalumba began planting Viognier in 1980 which was the first commercial planting of the variety in Australia.



WINEMAKING / VITICULTURE

The grapes for The Virgilius 1999 were sourced from the original vines planted in 1980 on the Vaughan's vineyard in the Eden Valley. The warm, dry 1999 season enabled the grapes to achieve high sugars and intense flavours, creating opulence. The juice was fermented in French hogsheads, a small percentage new, the balance well matured from previous vintages. A portion of the wine was allowed to undergo partial malolactic fermentation, and all stayed on yeast lees, in barrel, for nine months. Both malolactic fermentation and batonnage further heighten the palate weight, complexity and flavour generosity.

Yalumba 'The Virgilius' 1999 is pale gold in colour with lovely green highlights. Intense aromas of apricot nectar, freshly sliced white peaches, lifted spice and lychees are complemented by rich stone fruit flavours and a long citrus finish.

PRESS REVIEWS / AWARDS

"90 points .. offering beautifully focussed pear, exotic fruit and spice notes that linger effortlessly on the silky finish."
Wine Spectator (USA), December 2001 - January 2002

'93 points ... each release of Yalumba's Viognier sees it step a little closer to the highly perfumed, heady wonders of Condrieu on the Rhone'
The Advertiser Top 100 wines of 2000 (Adelaide, Australia)

"..powerful, intensely fragrant ...a delicious, profound white wine."
Huon Hooke, The Sydney Morning Herald (Australia), 17th October 2000

"[This wine] has rapidly become the benchmark for this increasingly important variety."
Peter Bourne, Australian Gourmet Traveller, September 2000

VINTAGE INFORMATION

Vintage	1999
Region	Eden Valley
Winemaker	Louisa Rose
Harvested	19th April 1999
Oak Treatment	Fermented and matured in older French oak hogsheads & barriques
Alc/Vol	14.5%
Total Acid	5.8 g/L
pH	3.38

