

# STEFANI ESTATE



## **2008 HEATHCOTE MERLOT**

### *Tasting Notes*

The very first vintage & special release of this limited premium wine. Fruit is grown at our family estate on the famed rich red Cambrian soils, in Heathcote, Victoria. Normally blended with Cabernet in past vintages this particular year was exceptional, resulting in a single varietal wine.

Rich garnet in colour with slight blue tinges. Subtle aromas showing characters of plums, violets and olives. Medium-bodied weight wine displaying magnificent rich fruit characters with great length, a hint of oak followed by a warm velvet finish. Enjoy this wine for up to 15 years with good cellaring.

### *Winemaking Notes*

The grapes were hand-picked, bunch sorted, pressed and then hand plunged to aid gentle tannin extraction as evident in the soft mouth feel. After pressing this wine was matured in French oak barriques for fifteen months. Twenty percent of the French oak used was new.

239 Cases produced Bottled December 2009