

November 2009

Sir Paz
ESTATE

MEDIA RELEASE



CAMERON DOUGLAS (MASTER SOMMELIER) – CRITIQUES SIR PAZ WINES – 2008 VINTAGE

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Cameron is New Zealand's first & only Master Sommelier with the International Court of Master Sommeliers worldwide.

Cameron is the resident wine writer for Hospitality Magazine; a Senior Wine Judge for Cuisine Magazine; a Judge for National and International Wine Award Shows; (held the Chief Judge Front of House position for the National Culinary Fare for three years). Convenor for the New Zealand Sommelier of the Year, and Chief Judge for Apprentice of the Year for the Hospitality Standards Institute of New Zealand.

He is responsible for the Sommelier Guild of New Zealand.

Sir Paz Merlot '08

Dark purple/ruby appearance with an almost opaque center. Pinkish rim. Notable colour staining of the tears.

N: ripe, plummy, youthful, dark stone fruit aromas – mainly Doris plums then a blackstrap liquorice note, a touch of sweet tobacco, plenty of oak spices.

P: Very dry, but also very fruity with juicy flavours and textures. Medium to medium plus complexity at this tasting.

This is a very young wine and the complexities I am looking for will easily develop over the coming 2-4 years. The raw power of this wine needs time to relax, mature and integrate. Furthermore, the power and impact of this wine could easily be further harnessed (& enjoyed) with up to 10 years of careful cellaring. For enjoyment today perhaps decant in the morning and enjoy late this evening. Overall well made with attention to detail, very youthful, great potential if cellared well. 18/20.

Sir Paz Shiraz '08

Opaque centre, dark purple and very dark ruby appearance, fuchsia rim.

N: Northern Rhone: - Granite laced, burnt raspberry and dark berry aromas. Then a nutty/woody layer – complex yet youthful. Overall a medium plus youthful complexity.

P: Dry, rich, fruity, spicy, complex. A powerful that is big on flavour and not on sweetness (tick); spiced black cherry and oak spices add additional flavour and complexity. Over all a great wine sure to please a wide range of palates. Easily a wine for the cellar (5-8 yrs+) or decant today and enjoy tomorrow. 18↑/20.