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iuliis  
EST. 1990



## 2021 Special Release Merlot

### Region

Hunter Valley

- The Special Release label gives Mike and the winemaking team the opportunity to create unique and interesting wines. These handcrafted wines are available only to our DeWine Club members and cellar door guests.



### The Story

Merlot was one of the first varieties we planted on our Lovedale Road (LDR) vineyard in the early 90's.

The LDR Vineyard was a former cattle grazing property, before it was regenerated by Joss and Anna De Iuliis.

Merlot is a favourite of Joss's and so Mike makes it to keep his dad happy.

### The Wine

Aromatics of sensationally uplifted spice & pepper notes, with subtle cherry.

An explosion of cranberries at the front of the palate, that flows into a savoury finish with clove and pepper.

A vibrant red, with soft and structured tannins.

### The Vintage

A cooler ripening period yielded elegant red wines with intricate fruit profiles. Breakthrough rainfall after a drought paved the way for an outstanding growing season.

A cool summer and timely heat spikes fostered stress-free ripening, ensuring optimal flavor development and high natural acidity.

### The Potential

Merlot has the potential for short term ageing but we really enjoy the bright characteristics and silky tannins on this wine right now. The choice is yours to either drink up or stash away for the next five years.

### The Match

In summer, drink alongside cheeses like gruyere, manchego and comté and charcuterie like prosciutto or bresaola.

In winter, those richer heavy dishes like beef bourguignon will be a treat with the 2021 Special Release Merlot.