



Winemaker Kevin Mitchell purchased the Kilikanoon property in the heart of South Australia's picturesque Clare Valley in 1997 with a vision of creating his own brand. The first Kilikanoon branded wines were from the 1997 vintage and released in 1998. The wines were Shiraz (soon to become the Oracle, Mort's Block Riesling, Prodigal Grenache and Cabernet Sauvignon, with all the grapes coming from the 2 vineyards owned by Kevin and his father Mort.

Like many Australia winemakers Kevin Mitchell is highly trained in both the scientific and artistic sides of winemaking. He also comes from a long tradition of grape growing in the Clare Valley, where grapes have been grown and wine made since the 1850s. In its relatively short history Kilikanoon has won a large number of Australian and International awards and received high praise from the world's most respected wine writers. The 2002 Clare Valley Wine Show was what really put Kilikanoon on the map. That year there were 7 trophies awarded (trophies being awarded to the highest scoring gold medalists where the judges felt the wines were of sufficient standard). Of these 7 Kilikanoon won 6, remembering of course that the judges, led that year by Huon Hooke, one of Australia's most respected and influential wine writers and judges tasted all the wines blind. In more recent times Kilikanoon has received comments like "This is one of the most brilliantly run wineries in Australia" from Robert Parker Jr's Wine Advocate, who has regularly scored Kilikanoon's wines up to 98 points, and the coveted 5 red stars from James Halliday's authoritative Australian Wine Companion. These, as well as international awards such as Best Shiraz (worldwide) at the 2008 International Wine Challenge for Kilikanoon's Oracle Shiraz and the same award-(Best Shiraz) at the 2004 International Wine and Spirits Competition, also for Oracle have helped Kilikanoon to spread its wings rather more quickly than may be expected from a young winery.

2005 Kilikanoon "The Covenant" Shiraz - Clare Valley

For pricing please call 913-327-1977

Has impressive concentration without getting heavy or dense, offering sleek cherry, blackberry, berry leaf and mineral flavors that keep swirling through the long, focused finish. The tannins are well-submerged. 92 Points Wine Spectator

2005 Kilikanoon "The Medley" - Barossa Valley/Clare Valley

(50% Grenache, 40% Shiraz and 10% Mourvedre)

For pricing please call 913-327-1977

Dark red color. Smoky, floral-accented red berry and cherry on the nose. Medium in body and invitingly sweet, with a round, velvety texture to the raspberry and boysenberry flavors and no obvious tannins. Lush, sweet and very easy to drink, but I suspect that Old World palates will find the fruit too jammy. Finishes with good clarity and persistence. 89pts Stephen Tanzer

2005 Kilikanoon "The Parable" Shiraz - McClaren Vale

For pricing please call 913-327-1977

The 2005 Shiraz "Parable" from McLaren Vale is the most structured and muscular of this trio. It has an enticing nose of mineral, truffle, roasted meat, blackberry, and blueberry compote. Full-bodied and brooding on the palate, it will need 8-10 years to show its full potential. 93 Points Wine Advocate