



**WINE IMPRESSES:** Highbank Wines owner Denis Vice celebrates his winery's positive reviews from Master of Wine Ned Goodwin this month, which saw his Highbank 'Family Reserve' Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon enter Mr Goodwin's Wine Wishlist, set to be presented at Wine Australia's Minimal Intervention Master Class for the Asia Pacific next month. Picture: KATIE JACKSON

# Wine master praises Coonawarra creations

## Highbank Cabernet Sauvignon added to wine wishlist following rave review

COONAWARRA'S Highbank Wines has been labelled the "star of Coonawarra" after receiving rave reviews from Master of Wine Ned Goodwin.

The winery's produce was reviewed ahead of Wine Australia's Minimal Intervention Master Class for the Asia Pacific, to be presented by Mr Goodwin at the Australian Embassy in Tokyo as part of Australian Wine Grand Tastings in Seoul on September 4 and 6.

Highbank Wines was also added to Mr Goodwin's wine "wishlist" which showcases produce that delivers vivid classical stories as well as more flexible minimal intervention wines.

Owner Denis Vice said he was proud of his winery's success as it was a small business solely operated by himself and wife Bonnie.

Among the four wines reviewed was the Highbank Coonawarra Family Reserve Single Vineyard

2013 - described as a dutifully forward vintage by Mr Goodwin, with the scented 13 supine and gorgeous drinking in its youth, bristling with currant, mint, black olive, mulch, cigar box and plum.

"The wine is strung across a timbre of herbal inflected tannins, well-appointed oak and juicy acidity, suggesting that it will carry well into old age," Mr Goodwin said.

The wine received a score of 96/100.

Mr Goodwin praised the Highbank Coonawarra Single Vineyard 2014 saying the wine offered "a little more jam in the cabernet pastry" with the addition of the merlot.

"Merlot as an earlier ripener, serves this vintage well," Mr Goodwin said.

"This opens beautifully, with current and mottled leafiness blossoming to a pure line of cassis

within a day of opening."

This wine was scored 94/100.

Over past years Highbank Wines has been given copious amounts of positive reviews, including Master of Wine Andrew Caillard in 2011 naming the winery as "my find of the year".

"Denis Vice's Highbank is making beautiful and consistent wine across several vintages," Mr Caillard said.

In November 2015, the winery's 2013 Highbank 'Single Vineyard' Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc also received an impressive 94 points.

Mr Vice said he prided himself on the vineyard's naturally produced wines, as the vines were grown without the use of chemical herbicides or insecticides.

"The vines have been farmed according to biodynamic principles for more than 25 years," Mr Vice said.