














# HOPE ESTATE



## 2004 Hope Estate "The Cracker!" Cabernet 80% Merlot 20%

### 100% Estate Grown 100% Family Owned

Hope Estate has 28 hectares of vines at Donnybrook, in the Geopraphe region of Western Australia. The cabernet and merlot grapes are crushed on the west coast and then transported by truck across the Nullabor Plains to the Hunter Valley on the east coast where they are fermented and bottled. The must is chilled for this three day road trip and arrives with amazing colour and tannin extraction.

	<b>Picked</b>	Late March 2004		<b>Bottled</b>	January 2006
	<b>Oak</b>	30% American oak during fermentation. For maturation 30% French oak and 70% American oak.			
	<b>Analysis</b>	Alcohol 13%	pH 3.73	T/A 7.3 g/L	Residual Sugar 3.3 g/L
	<b>Appearance</b>	Very dark red with slight purple hue			
	<b>Aroma</b>	Lifted generous blackberry characters with the warmth of liquorice, chocolate and sweet vanillan oak			
	<b>Bouquet</b>	The oak fermentation and maturation has enhanced cooler climate mint and eucalypt characters of the wine.			
	<b>Palate</b>	Upfront sweet blackberry and blueberry fruit explode to fill the palate. A full bodied mouthfeel is supported by ripe tannins and vanillan oak balanced by the mint and eucalypt notes.			
	<b>Food Marriage</b>	This full bodied wine is perfect with a juicy lamb dish or can handle rich beef or duck.			
	<b>Serve</b>	Room temperature – 14 to 16°C, or slightly chilled.			
	<b>Cellaring</b>	Drink now or leave to develop for up to 8 years.			
	<b>Winemaker</b>	James Campkin			
	<b>Michael Hope's Notes</b>	"The Cracker" is an amazing wine. With the extended cold maceration we have achieved dense colour and flavours that are not overdone. It's a wine I describe as elegantly big as it shows the best of the cooler West Australian climate as the merlot nicely rounds out the cabernet characters. Truly a Cracker!			