



Tscharke

Grenache, Stone Well Vineyard 2020



WINEMAKING

Hand harvested on the 14th of March. The fruit was fully destemmed into an open concrete fermenter. 48 hours later the must was inoculated and allowed to naturally warm up to over 30°C, before being chilled and maintained at 20-25°C. The cap was managed by hand twice to three times daily to extract as much as possible from the skins. Once dry, free run and pressing were transferred into a tank to complete MLF.

In early May the wine was lightly sulphured and transferred with fine lees to a seasoned 3000L French foudre, where it élevaged for 11 months before being racked and bottled.

VINEYARD

This Grenache vineyard was planted on our Stone Well property in 2009. Trained onto a single cordon wire, the vertical growth habit produces canopies that help shelter the fruit from the intense sun, allowing enough dappled light to assist colour and flavor accumulation. The North Westerly facing aspect has moderately deep brown clay soils with underlying calcareous chalk. The late ripening vineyard is well suited to these soils, retaining fresh canopies by harvest echoed by the balanced acid and fresh flavours under warm growing conditions.

VINTAGE REPORT

The wines of 2020 vintage are proving to be of exceptional quality, despite the challenging growing season and very low yields.

Winter rainfall was below average but a warm start to spring gave rise to even budburst and minimal frost events. The growing season was hampered by unseasonably high winds that delivered the biggest blow to the season, at flowering. Dry conditions, extremely high temperatures coupled with the strong winds destroyed up to 70% of flowers in some vineyards; Shiraz the worst affected.

The ripening conditions were ideal, moderate temperatures and minimal rain provided very low risk to disease pressures. Supplementary irrigation was critical in nurturing the health of the vineyards and encouraging favourable fruit ripening.

The general quality of wines from 2020 has proven great to exceptional; rich in flavour, strong colour and ripe tannins. Many of the wines formed balance early during fermentation and those well-structured will age well. Standouts varieties include Grenache, Grenache Blanc, Shiraz and Montepulciano.

TASTING NOTES

“Best decanted and served in a Burgundy style glass.

Medium crimson colour. On the nose it shows red and dark fruit: black cherry, blackberry, ripe strawberry and blood orange. Surrounding the fruit are an array of spices and secondary characters, from white pepper to dried herbs, dried petals, sandalwood and meaty tones. Great intensity and power.

The palate is tightly structured with incredibly robust tannins and fresh acidity. The wine is juicy and ripe but far from a fruit-bomb. The savoury tones coming through contrast a beautifully floral quality. Full bodied with an infinite finish. This Grenache will age gracefully for over a decade.”

Vintage	2020
Vineyard	Stone Well
Variety	100% Grenache
Alcohol	15.6% ABV
pH	3.37
Titrateable Acidity	6.9 g/L