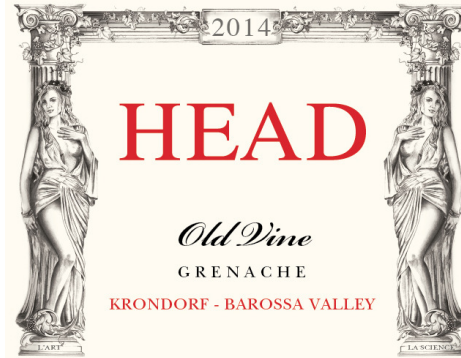


HEAD WINES of the Barossa Valley

2014 HEAD 'Old Vine' Grenache Krondorf



The best parcel of Barossa Valley Grenache in 2014 came from a 72 year old vineyard in Krondorf on red to brown clays. Green harvested before veraison by 50% and shoot thinned to ensure ultimate quality of the grapes at time of harvest. Split hand-picked at 14% and 15% potential alcohol over a week. 15% whole-bunch, no crushing or temperature control, natural yeasts, hand plunged and foot trodden twice daily for 3 weeks. Racked once during elevage of 12 months in a 20 year old 2500L foudre with a small addition of old vine mourvedre for balance. Here the Grenache flirts with Burgundy rather than Rhone in its colour, texture and finesse. Bottled unfinned and unfiltered under stelvin capsule.

Deep crimson red with brilliant clarity, poise, almost shimmering in the glass. Aromas of fresh red cherries and fruit spice, aniseed, cured meat and forrest floor. Barely medium bodied in extract with sweet, textural red fruit flavours & lingering, sweet mouthwatering tannins. Great persistence and length of flavour here. Versatile but would suit red meats. Drink now or up to 15 years. 14.5% Alcohol.

Sweet cherries and raspberry, spice, smoked meat, peanuts in their shells, dried flowers and a pleasant kind of sweatiness. Light to medium bodied, confusingly feels succulent and bony at the same time, has a gentle sweetness of red berry fruit, yet a dry stony texture to its fine grained tannin. Lovely clean length. Complex. Light on its feet. Beautiful to drink. It's how you make Grenache sing.

Gary Walsh – Wine Front, 95Pts