



96 pts



## AVATAR

### 2022 GRENACHE MATARO SHIRAZ

Whilst Shiraz might be the poster boy for the Barossa, we believe blending it with Grenache and Mataro produces the best drinking wines from this region. Thanks to our good mates the Riebke brothers and other Barossa growers whose families have stuck by these varieties for the past 100 years or more, we're privileged to have fruit from very old vines to make our GSM blends. In 2002, our first vintage, we made one wine... an unoaked GSM blend we called Joshua. With that wine selling out quickly, we decided to have a crack at releasing a second wine from the vintage, a different take on the original blend and aged in seasoned oak for 12 months. Loosely interpreted, Avatar can mean 'transformation'...so a pretty good moniker for a wine we fondly refer to as the older brother for our Josh.

### VINTAGE

The blend percentages for Avatar might change each vintage, but the recipe doesn't vary much... the 2022 vintage blends 50% Grenache for spice and bright red fruits, 40% Mataro for some savoury earthiness and depth and 10% Shiraz for plump plum and rich black fruit. The time in oak... and the choice of old seasoned oak...ensures it serves only as a seasoning to add complexity and savoury nuance. With vines this old, we want the fruit and earth to speak with the clearest voice.

A blend of Grenache (50%), Mataro (40%) & Shiraz sourced from a spread of old vine vineyards throughout the Barossa Valley. Whole berries encouraged into the open fermenters and pumped over by hand twice daily. One parcel of Grenache, representing 17% of the final blend, utilised 20% whole bunches.

### TASTING

Deep ruby core to a purple rim. Ripe mulberry, teriyaki and crushed violets aromas build and lift from the glass. Medium to full bodied with a serious intensity of dark fruit in the core. Dark spices, crushed gravel and meaty hints are all melded into seamless package that flows incredibly long, thanks to powerful, yet finest of grain tannins that carry on for almost an eternity.

Stuart Knox - The Real Review. 12 Oct 2023.

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*A blend of old-vine grenache, mataro and shiraz; matured in used oak to throw all the focus on the fruits and their freshness, coupled with the second great vintage conditions in a row after '21. Irresistible.*

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James Halliday - Halliday Wine Companion.  
27 Feb 2024.

<b>VARIETY</b>	60% Grenache, 30% Mataro, 10% Shiraz
<b>SUB-REGIONS</b>	Ebenezer, Moppa, Seppeltsfield, Williamstown & Tanunda
<b>HARVEST</b>	March & April
<b>MATURATION</b>	Matured in a blend of seasoned French oak Hogsheads (300L) and Puncheons (500L) for 11 months.
<b>ANALYSIS</b>	pH 3.55 TA 6.03 g/L 14.7% ALC/VOL
<b>CELLAR</b>	10+ years