

2015 THE PICT

WINEMAKER'S DIARY

VARIETIES

100% Mataro

DISTRICT

Northern Greenock (Materne 'Quarry Block' Vineyard planted 1927)

HARVEST

15 April, 2015

pH

3.53

ACIDITY

6.33g/L

ALCOHOL

14.5%

VINIFICATION

After hand-harvesting on 15 April, 2015 this small batch was de-stemmed into a single cement vat where it spent 8 days before being 'gravity-drained' and basket pressed. The juice was then racked into new French oak barriques where it completed a slow, natural malolactic fermentation and was aged for 2 years in oak. The best barrels were later assembled and the wine was bottled without filtration or fining on 3 March, 2017.

Mataro (or Mourvèdre as it is called in France) was once a 'workhorse variety' used for fortified winemaking in Australia, but is now receiving due acknowledgement as a superb varietal table wine, taking its place alongside Barossa Shiraz and Grenache.

A remnant quarry is the source of this single vineyard from which the fruit exhibits a wild, rugged aroma that is reminiscent of the earthy Mataros from the Bandol region of France.

Torbreck is the name of a forest near Inverness, Scotland and you'll find more than a passing nod to the Celts in our wine naming conventions. The Picts were a late Iron Age-Early Medieval tribe that settled eastern and northern Scotland.

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

Above average rains in 2014 filled the soil profile. This was followed by a helpful deluge for dry grown vineyards in January 2015. Generally dry for the remainder of vintage, warm days and cool nights created the perfect ripening conditions.

TASTING NOTE

Fresh plum, dark cherry and earthy characters dominate the nose with hints of smoked meats, dense cocoa and thyme. The expansive palate is focused, rich and dense with a rustic core of dark cherry and black olive all perfectly interwoven with ripe plum and rich game characters. Meaty and complex the wine's mineral strewn tannins and balanced acidity complete the composed, fragrant fruit profile. Although beautifully balanced in its youth, The Pict has the constitution and structure to continually evolve for a further 12 years.

