

2017 ROUSSANNE

WINEMAKER'S DIARY

VARIETIES

100% Roussanne

DISTRICT

Descendant
Vineyard,
Marananga
(planted 1994)

HARVEST

24 March, 2017

pH

3.28

ACIDITY

5.81g/L

ALCOHOL

13%

VINIFICATION

This unique small batch was hand-picked early in the morning and immediately pressed and settled overnight in tank. This enabled the juice to stay very cool and from here it was racked and fermented in stainless steel. Once fermentation was complete the wine was allowed to rest on lees to enhance the textural element of Roussanne. The wine was racked off lees and bottled on the 5 September, 2017.

Roussanne is a key Rhone white grape and it's always been our intention to showcase this variety with a single vineyard expression. Roussanne was one of the first varieties we planted on our Descendant vineyard in 1994 and its unique characteristics have always been highly prized.

In this wine, the variety's distinctive, varietal aromas have been subtly enhanced with lees contact creating a textured, elegant style. The exceptional purity of fruit is completely reliant on the narrow window of 'optimum ripeness' and each row was assessed daily in the lead up to picking.

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

After a cold and rainy winter in 2016, the Barossa had one of its wettest springs on record, replenishing sub-soil moisture and setting the vineyards up for a healthy summer. Mild conditions during veraison and light rains in January and February, 2017, were followed by an extended warm, dry Indian summer, creating perfect ripening conditions through to April, 2017. An outstanding vintage producing bright, aromatic whites and intense, well-structured reds.

TASTING NOTE

With a vibrant hue and distinctive aromatics of nectarine, cinnamon spiced pear, peach and almond, the nose is immediately rewarding. With a fine and delicate palate, a persistence and formidable length displays lemon and nectarine fruits. Showing a soft gently textured palate, the natural balanced acidity will enable this wine to cellar gracefully over the coming decade.

