

THISTLEDOWN WINE COMPANY



'SHE'S ELECTRIC' GRENACHE 2022

McLaren Vale, Australia



Technical Notes

This comes from a dry grown, 70 year old bush vine vineyard, on red-brown sandy loams with quartz and ironstone, in the Seaview district of McLaren Vale, overlooking the Onkaparinga gorge. Farmed using organic principles, the wide spacing, small vines and extensive cover crops give this vineyard a distinctly natural feel. The low yielding vines (1.5 ton/ acre) with good, open canopies, allowed for perfectly ripe fruit to be handpicked with bright fruit and crisp natural acidity. The fruit was hand-picked early in the morning of 9th March before swift transport to the winery where we retained 50% whole bunches. The balance of the fruit is destemmed and very lightly crushed. Gentle treading of the grapes resulted in a natural fermentation and during this process, the fruit was hand plunged twice daily. Once pressed off, the wine underwent malolactic fermentation in barrel before an 6 month stay in older, 300 & 500 liter French oak barrels. Finally, the wine was bottled without any fining or filtration.

1340 bottles produced.

UPC CODE: 8 58441 00691 0

About this Wine

A hugely important wine for Thistledown as this helped to redefine what contemporary, old vine Grenache is all about. This is a single vineyard project inspired by a remarkable, typically Australian tale. When Thistledown visited the first time, it was noticeable that there was a patch of young vines in the middle of the old vine plot. It turns out that there had been a power cut and during the outage some birds perched on a power line that crosses the vineyard. As the electricity surged through the line again, a combustible bird fell to the ground and set fire to the vineyard, destroying half of the original vines making a scarce resource even scarcer. Thankfully half of the vines survived and the fruit used for this wine, is from the older part of the vineyard. Perhaps showing his age, Giles immediately thought of the song She's Electric by UK band Oasis, and from that moment on, the name became synonymous with this incredible old vineyard. Drawing on the themes of energy and current, Thistledown pick this wine early which, when combined with the wild, 50% whole bunch ferment and gentle plunges ensures a wine that may be pale, but is oh so aromatic, textural and infused with wild red fruits, herbs and minerals with layers of flavor that unfurl across the tongue.

Wine Analysis

Varietal: 100% Grenache

Alcohol: 14.5%

Total Acidity: 5.19 g/l

pH: 3.55

Residual Sugar: 2 g/l

SO2: 69 mg/l

- ✓ VEGAN FRIENDLY
- ✓ SUSTAINABLE
- ✗ ORGANIC
- ✗ BIODYNAMIC

Vintage Conditions

2022 vintage followed in much the same vein as the much-lauded 2021. A little later than normal but the season was characterised by regular moderate rainfall, friendly temperatures and an elongated ripening period which allowed for an even spread of fruit over the harvesting period. The wines are characterised by balanced, aromatic fruit profiles, lovely energy and silky tannins which give a capacity for both youthful exuberance and ageing.

Tasting Note

Aromatic and lifted on the nose with a beautifully layered, textural palate with wild strawberry and spice.

Suitable for vegetarians and vegans.

Scores / Reviews

96_{pts} The Real Review

95_{pts} Robert Parker Wine Advocate

94_{pts} Halliday Wine Companion

93_{pts} The Wine Front

