

**'THIS CHARMING MAN'
GRENACHE 2024**

McLaren Vale, South Australia



Technical Notes

This remarkable site has vines that are 100+ years old. The entire site, high in the picturesque Clarendon sub-region of McLaren Vale, is planted entirely with dry grown bush vines and has been farmed by the same family for three generations. This wine is sourced from one particular block where the canopy is raised slightly higher above the ground, allowing for better air circulation and increased radiated sunlight. Hand-picked fruit, harvested on March 25th, was transported to the winery where 20% was retained as whole bunches to be placed on the base of a concrete pyramid fermenter. The fruit underwent a wild ferment with no active must movement, creating a gentle infusion rather than extraction. After that, the wine was pressed off into seasoned French puncheons where it matured for 11 months before being racked to bottle.

About this Wine

A Sense of Place is something that many winemakers talk about but it's a tricky concept to get across to anyone who has not visited the region or who knows the people involved. In many ways, the "new world" Sense of Place echoes the old world notion of Terroir where the effects of soil, site, aspect, climate and tradition all come to bear on the eventual character and quality of the wine - lending it a unique personality. On a beautiful hillside in the Clarendon sub-region of McLaren Vale, three generations of the Smart family have devoted their lives to Grenache. Decades have passed where precious few valued their crop and yet they endured. That this remarkable vineyard has survived, is all due to Bernard Smart, and this wine pays homage to this charming man.

UPC CODE: 8 58441 00696 5

Wine Analysis

Varietal: 100% Grenache
Alcohol: 13.5%
Total Acidity: 5.89 g/l
pH: 3.24
SO2: 86 mg/l

✓ **VEGAN FRIENDLY**
✓ **SUSTAINABLE**
✗ **ORGANIC**
✗ **BIODYNAMIC**

Vintage Conditions

The '24 vintage, being the first El Niño season, was expected to be warm and dry but if anything, the early season conditions were the opposite. Unsettled, cool, and sometimes wet weather resulted in erratic fruit set but from the end of January onwards, the weather was settled and very dry. Aside from a few days of heat in March, the season continued, with the moderate temperatures and mild conditions allowing for picking all varieties at the ideal moment.

Tasting Note

This wine displays muscular yet elegant silky black fruits couple with deep, rich, warming spices, hints of violet, mineral and black cherry

Scores/Reviews

"It's a wine of incredible depth and weightlessness, suspended over a tannic net of such intricacy. It's as good an iteration as I can recall tasting on release. A great wine."

-Halliday Wine Companion
99 Points, Grenache of the Year
Red Wine of the Year

97 pts The Wine Advocate

94 pts James Suckling

