

Red Knot



2009
GRENACHE SHIRAZ
MOURVÈDRE

McLAREN VALE

The region has a Mediterranean climate with wet winters, dry summers and plenty of sunshine. The proximity to St Vincent Gulf, coincidentally named after the patron saint of winemakers, benefits fruit quality with warmer spring and autumn conditions and cooler summers. McLaren Vale is renowned as a premium wine region of great beauty that consistently produces high quality, richly flavoured wines.

TASTING NOTES

Vibrant, dark cherry in colour. The heady aromas of summer lift from the glass, with ripe strawberry, pot pourri and notes of citrus oil. The luscious, chocolate covered Turkish delight mid-palate of the Grenache is supported by the blackberry of the Shiraz and subtle licorice of the Mourvèdre. These three varieties when blended strike a harmonious chord of ripe fruit and balanced tannins, offering immediate appeal. With age the wine will develop an attractive, savoury complexity.

VINEYARD SOURCE

McLaren Vale

VARIETY BLEND

60% Grenache
35% Shiraz
5% Mourvèdre

BOTTLING

Alc: 14.5%
pH: 3.53
TA: 5.8 g/L

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VINTAGE NOTES

Although soils held moderate moisture levels from winter, some early irrigation was required to compensate for the ongoing drought conditions. Soil moisture levels were built up in mid January to ensure the vines were not stressed during the critical period of veraison, when many of the important precursors for quality wine are formed in the berry. When very hot weather was predicted, this moisture reserve and our ability to provide supplementary drip irrigation rapidly to the vineyards allowed damage from the extremely hot conditions in late January to be minimized. Fruit that was heat damaged shriveled and dried cleanly, reducing further the already low yields.

After the heat of late January / early February, the weather was ideal, allowing the vines to recover and giving winemakers the luxury of little outside pressure. Harvest commenced approximately 2 weeks early on February 4th. Sugar and acid levels at harvest were ideal with flavours developing early in the whites and reds, and delayed sugar accumulation. Lower yields also allowed the reds extended time in fermenters on skins, as there was reduced demand on winery facilities. There was time for winemakers to maximize the potential of the fruit from the vineyard and to enjoy the crafting of the wines. The end result has been aromatic and balanced wines, with fruit power and generally lower alcohol levels.



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