

Rusty Plough

Single Vineyard

2014 Grenache

McLaren Vale

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There was a time when traditional weed control in vineyards involved ploughing the soil relentlessly to dust. In the late '70s, Richard decided that this didn't make any sense and stopped. Today the rows have a wonderful grassy swath and the extra organic matter and cooling effect on the vineyard helps our Grenache thrive. If you listen carefully, the ploughs can be heard peacefully resting away on a quiet day, perhaps in reverence to this fantastic wine. Aromas and flavours of blackcurrant jubes, berry frit, cherries, earth and spice abound on the nose and palate. Older oak hogsheads were used for gentle maturation so as to allow the natural fruit flavour and aromas to develop. Enjoy now or cellar for 7-10 years to release its full potential.

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Wet, cold, wind, heat, wet, cold—in that order—one of the most challenging, yet potentially rewarding, vintages since 2011. Restricted spring vine growth due to cool wet conditions meant the usual canopy management techniques were abandoned early in the season, and a “wait and see policy” was adopted until the soils warmed a little more. November winds arrived with force and continued through to flowering. These winds placed more pressure on the vines as they coincided with cloudy days, creating less than ideal conditions for pollination and canopy growth. Relief came mid December and the vines released all their pent up energy in a frenzy of unprecedented growth. High temperatures were experienced in South Australia during January 13th–18th. The weather then reverted to its pre heat wave behavior and cool cloudy conditions delayed ripening with reds in McLaren Vale being picked 10 days before Easter.

REGION	McLAREN VALE
VINEYARD	ARTHURS
VINE AGE	70+ YEARS
SOIL PROFILE	RED LOAM / CLAY
ALCOHOL	16%
pH	3.29
TA	6.71

