



2018 Izway Mates (100% Aglianico)

The Mates

Each year, the Mates is dedicated to people who have inspired, influenced and entertained us; our Mates. The Mates was the second wine that we crafted at Izway behind Bruce, and the first Vintage was 2004. Originally the wine was a blend of the traditional Barossa varieties Grenache, Shiraz and Mataro. As our personal drinking preferences evolved over the years, we began to make this a fresher, lighter style, eventually dropping the Shiraz and making the wine predominantly Grenache. In 2014 we made the wine from Aglianico and Mataro and the 2018 is the first release of this wine being 100% Aglianico.

2018 Vintage Comments

The 2018 Vintage once again proved that timing is everything. Following a wet growing season in 2017, we had minimal autumn and winter rain, setting us up for a potentially difficult year. However, spring provided us with bountiful water and the season was set from there. We experienced another dry and hot summer, which restricted our yields but amplified the quality of the harvest. For Izway, a late March start resulted in cool picking conditions, lower alcohols and incredible purity and energy in our wine. The result is another spectacular vintage characterized by intensity and elegance, with the wines produced providing pleasure to the impatient and reward to those who can wait.

Vineyard

Over the years we have been on the hunt for another red varietal that could match the quality of Mataro, Grenache and Shiraz in the Barossa Valley. We decided Aglianico from Basilicata, Italy would work well and so we approached John, Barb and Andy Kalleske to plant some in their Koonunga vineyard. The site is east facing on tough, rocky ground which helps to restrict vigor and creates a distinctive tannin profile. Aglianico has settled into its new home in the Barossa perfectly, and we hope it continues to satiate us for many years to come.

The 2018 Mates is fresh, vibrant and pure with a savoury edge. The tannin structure and crisp natural acidity make this vintage different from its predecessors and we love the evolution of Mates as a drink and a style.

Vineyard: Andy, John & Barb Kalleske Aglianico Vineyard

Sub Appellation: Koonunga Hill

Elevation: 300m

Details: Planted 2009, soil is sandy loam over deep rocky clay, with scattered ironstone and bluestone on the surface

