



2016 Izway Bruce Shiraz

About Bruce

The personal story of Izway began during the 2002 harvest in France, but the story of our wine began in 2003 when we made one barrel of wine from a great vineyard in the Northern Barossa. We named it Bruce. This single barrel held the first 300 bottles crafted by us and was named after Kathryn's father, who passed away the year the wine was bottled. This is the most iconic and personally significant wine that we produce. The remaining bottles of this first harvest are held dearly in our cellar. The wine is unashamedly and passionately Barossan, with power, depth, texture and structure. It to be consumed as a young wine or kept in the cellar for many years.

The Vintage

Although the 2016 Vintage will be considered one of the great harvests of the last 20 years, the growing conditions were anything but conventional. The total rainfall for the year was half the average but the timing was perfect. The summer was warm but not hot and there were no extended heat waves. These conditions resulted in exceptional fruit created in shrewd and almost sagacious weather, where the season seemed dialed in to the specifics of each vineyard. The wines created are equally intelligent and authoritative, with purity of fruit combining with incredible tannin structure. Layered and complex, these wines will age for many years and will cement the Barossa Valley as one of the worlds iconic wine regions.

The Wine

The 2016 Bruce is once again a combination of two main vineyards sourced from different sub-regions of the Barossa Valley. The boney, tough red soils found on the hills surrounding Greenock produce tiny bunches and berries and creates wine that is highly structured, fine and elegant. This profile is blended with the dark, rich and concentrated fruit of Koonunga Hill to produce a wine of great power and structure. The 2016 also has a small addition of Old Vine Fruit from Moppa, further enhancing its pedigree.

Savoury and structured, the 2016 Bruce is more layered and subtler than the last three releases and maybe bares the strongest resemblance to the 2012. It is still strongly fragrant and classic Northern Barossa Shiraz and the rustic nose reminds me of visits to the butcher shop with a combination of sawdust, fennel and smokey bacon. The palate is slightly dusty with fine, grippy tannin and juicy fresh acidity. The classic dark chocolate bitterness and coating mouth feel reminds me that this is Barossa through and through, although the mid palate texture is more reminiscent of a temperate Harvest.

This Bruce is one for the cellar, with ideal drinking at 2025-2030, although decanting will reward the impatient.

The Vineyards

Vineyard: (J.B.A) Kalleske Shiraz 'Bruce' Block
Sub Appellation: Koonunga Hill
Planted: 1980's
Soil: sandy loam over deep clay

Vineyard: Kleinig Old Shiraz
Sub Appellation: Moppa
Planted: 1896
Soil: sandy loam over deep clay

Vineyard: Slade Shiraz Young Block
Sub Appellation: Greenock
Planted: 2010
Soil: red gravelly clay

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Craig Isbel'.

Craig Isbel
Winemaker