



2020 Izway Harold Shiraz (Eden Valley)

About Harold

I grew up in the Wimmera in Victoria at a time when the creeks and lakes flowed bountifully with water. We regularly fished for trout in these lakes and Dad, being a tragic angler, would never be short of gear. Sometimes we would share 20 fishing rods between our family of five, which eventually caused issues as we could not tell which rod was biting. We decided to name the rods, and in doing so they took on their own personalities. Harold Fisher was an old, traditional, grain farmer that Dad sold tractors to, and he wasn't renowned for his abilities as a scholar or fashionista. It was obvious to name a rod after Harold, but little did we know that this rod was to become as much a part of the family as the rest of us. A legend in and out of the water, Harold was purchased in the 1950's and is still used to this day. He is old and grumpy yet freakishly talented.

The Vintage

The 2019/2020 growing season dealt significantly challenging conditions in our vineyards, and for the third year in a row a hot, windy November decimated crop levels. A combination of this consistent, dry wind along with dry soils, led to the lowest yields we have experienced for close to fifteen years. Fortunately, the hot summer broke early and a cooler than average February and March allowed us to craft some stunning wines. The lower yields resulted in deep, rich colours, fine tannins and high tone aromatics, and the cold nights meant that the wines have purity, freshness, and great acid balance. In general terms, the yield of our harvest is determined before Christmas and the quality of the harvest is determined after Christmas. This adage could not be more accurately displayed than in the wines that we produced in 2020.

The Wine

Appearance is dense black with purple hue, almost completely opaque. Vibrant and fresh aromatics of dark chocolate, violet, lavender and cassis. Bold, brave and generous, lively and fresh, the palate is primarily forward without being heavy, a hallmark of the Northern Eden Valley. Low acidity and soft tannin lead to a wine that is drinking well now, but there will be some benefit in cellaring for 5 to 10 years .

The Vineyard

Vineyard:	Fechner Shiraz
Sub Appellation:	Moculta (Eden Valley)
Planted:	1995
Elevation:	369m
Soil:	Gravelly Loam over Limestone and Clay

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

Craig Isbel
Winemaker