



2022 Izway Maurice Grenache

About Maurice

Grenache is one of the original varietals grown in the Barossa Valley, with vast plantings of bush vines still scattered across our region, many surviving here since the 1850's. We named this wine after "Maurice", who is the brother of "Bruce", and want people to consider Shiraz and Grenache to be brothers in the Barossa. In our opinion Grenache is the variety that is most suited to the marginal soils and warm climate of the Barossa Valley; even more so than its more famous counterpart Shiraz. We have made it an aspiration to make the best Grenache wines we possibly can and to inspire people to drink more of this underrated varietal. Grenache; the unheralded legend of the Barossa.

The Vintage

The 2021/2022 growing season continued our run of cool vintages, with bountiful spring rain and no days recorded above 37 degrees. These cool harvests allow us to create pure, energetic, balanced wines and give us the flexibility in the winery to schedule perfect picking dates and gentle, controlled maceration. There was one isolated but significant hailstorm that affected a narrow band of the Barossa on the 28th of October, which unfortunately smashed out home vineyard, as well as the Harold Vineyard in Eden Valley. All other sites remained unaffected, and the season delivered slightly below average yields, healthy canopies and perfectly ripe bunches. While I believe 2021 will be considered a higher quality harvest, the wines of 2022 are still exceptional in their own right, and will equally drink beautifully young and age with poise, balance and refinement.

The Wine

After two vintages decimated by the weather, it is great to finally bottle another Maurice, and the 2022 release was certainly worth the wait. The nose is pretty, fresh and fragrant, with lifted floral and fruit aromatics, yet it waxes and wanes with almost every sniff. The palate is undeniably ripe, synonymous with the Marananga sub-region, with a density that belies its light, bright, colour. The plush fruit sweetness and inviting aromatics should excite all Grenache lovers, however, I believe the true quality of this wine will be expressed more accurately with decanting, or with another 3 to 5 years of cellaring.

The Vineyards

Vineyard: Mirus Vineyard

Sub Appellation: Marananga

Planted: 1950's

Soil: red clay with scattered ironstone

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

Craig Isbel
Winemaker