



2024 Izway Three Brians Grenache

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. The gnarled and twisted bush Grenache vines on our Seppeltsfield property each have their own personality. Much like the Three Brian's this wine is named after, each is unique, no three are the same. In our opinion Grenache is the variety that is most suited to the marginal soils and warm climate of our home region of Seppeltsfield; 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.

The Vintage

The 2023/2024 growing season began with a dry winter, which fed into Spring, culminating in a calendar year rainfall (2023) of just 326mm (75% of the average). These conditions would generally lead to significantly lower yields and inferior vine health, however, on the back of three wetter seasons with average to below average yields, the vines still prospered, particularly after some decent early summer rains and cooler temperatures. Yields were again affected by frost and wind during flowering, which helped restrict bunch weights slightly and led to a more favorable fruit load to canopy balance. With lower yields and dryer conditions, the fruit ripened quickly, and we began harvest on the 26th of February, exactly one month earlier than the previous year. In fact, with the exception of the late ripening Aglianico, we finished harvesting all blocks on the 23rd of March, which was earlier than we started harvest in 2023.

Despite all this, the quality of the harvest was excellent, with these conditions providing distinctive personality and flair. The wines are dark and structured, with a brilliant balance between acid and tannin. Each variety expresses vitality and energy, with greater boldness and depth than the previous three harvests. A stellar run of vintages that are each distinctive and unique, cementing the Barossa Valley as the most consistent region in the country.

The Wine

Perfectly structured and balanced, the wine gracefully evolves in the glass with each sip, meandering through a range of fruit driven characters with assertiveness and gratification. I have always loved the texture of Grenache from this vineyard, and the mouth feel is silky and plush, juicy, and intriguing. The season has delivered a profoundly balanced wine with flow and elegance that is an absolute pleasure to drink.

The Three Brians is crafted from our 120+-year-old organically grown vineyard and hand bottled at Izway at our off-grid winery. The first time the wine will leave the site is when it makes its journey to its new home in your cellar. Only 560 bottles were produced.

The Vineyard

Vineyard: Izway Home block

Sub Appellation: Seppeltsfield

Planted: 1901

Soil: Shallow red clay with scattered bluestone, ironstone and granite

Craig Isbel
Winemaker