

2025 Izway Aglianico Rosato

About Rosato

When a new variety is planted in a region it creates the opportunity to experiment with wine styles that don't have to follow tradition or context. I have always had a hunch that Aglianico, with beautiful natural acidity, prominent tannin and colour and vibrant, fresh aromatics would be a perfect variety to make a Rose style wine from. We were finally able to test this theory after making some tweaks to our winery infrastructure in 2025. The result is a classic Rose style wine with texture, polish and charm, and a wine that is perfect for spring and summer drinking. As the sun slowly climbs in the sky, we are looking forward to giving this, a few test-runs by the pool for many summers to come.

The Vintage

2025 was a difficult and stressful year in the winery and the vineyards, with a number of extreme events dictating winemaking decisions. 2024 began with a very dry start, with virtually no rain from February to June. However, decent rain in June and July corrected the deficit, until another dry spring reset our expectations. One of the most significant frost events I have seen occurred in September and wiped out our entire vineyard in Seppeltsfield, along with many other blocks throughout the Barossa. A daily record rain event on the 18th of October helped with the regrowth of effected vineyards, and this roller coaster ride of boom and bust would continue right through harvest. The combination of a number of heat waves and an extremely dry summer meant the harvest was a white-knuckle ride through to completion. It was a year that highlighted the importance of being a very small producer, and we made many small parcels of wine to provide us with a range of flavor profiles to blend with. The wines produced exceeded our expectations, and we have produced some wonderful parcels from a challenging season.

The Wine

We have managed to attain an enticing, bright copper/salmon colour on this inaugural release, and I hope we can emulate this in seasons to come. It was one of the most difficult elements to ascertain and achieve with our rudimentary basket presses, and I am pleased with the appearance of our first crack! Vibrant aromatics of grapefruit, cranberry, orange peel, peach and strawberry come alive and remind us of the familiar Aglianico scents. The pallet is fresh and alive, with a spine of acidity carrying the texture that doesn't lack richness nor tannin. A refreshing and thoughtful drink that already has us excited about the potential of future releases.

The Vineyard

Vineyard: Andy, John & Barb Kalleske Aglianico Vineyard

Sub Appellation: Koonunga

Planted: 2009 Elevation: 300m

Soil: Red clay with chunky ironstone, and scattered gravel

Craig Isbel Winemaker