



## 2024 Izway Angelo Aglianico

### About Angelo

Over the years we have been on the hunt for another red varietal that could match the quality of Mataro, Grenache and Shiraz in the Barossa Valley. We decided Aglianico from Basilicata, Italy, would work well and so we approached John, Barb and Andy Kalleske to plant some in their Koonunga vineyard. The grape has probably exceeded our expectations, and the late ripening at lower alcohol and high natural acid has given us a strong point of difference from the other wines we make.

Angelo is a great mate of mine, a gentleman with a charming amount of crazy. His family has been concreting for generations, and he completed all the work at the winery and cellar door. It seemed appropriate that we named this Aglianico after my favourite Italian/Aussie, Angelo.

### 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 favourable 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 Wine

Angelo is fast gaining recognition and respect from a loyal band of adventurous drinkers that are keen to discover new flavours and textures. Familiar aromatics of herbs and spices are flanked by pretty florals of violet, lavender, rhubarb and orange. The trademark Aglianico tannin profile is ever present, with crisp acidity maintaining a fresh and vibrant structure. There is a 'cool brightness' to the wine, showcasing the elegance and balance of Aglianico without any density or richness, making this once again a striking reminder of the appropriateness of the variety in our region.

### The Vineyard

The Aglianico vineyard is located at the most Northwestern corner of the Barossa Valley, with an east facing aspect and a significant gradient that facilitates shading from the hot afternoon summer sun. The soil is scattered with chunks of ironstone, providing a perfect site for grape vines.

**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