

THISTLEDOWN WINE COMPANY



Where Eagles Dare Shiraz 2019

Eden Valley, Barossa

Perched high above the Barossa, the Eden Valley can be a precarious but highly rewarding place in which to grow grapes. This single vineyard, at 550m above sea level is hauntingly beautiful. Home to the majestic wedgetail eagle, the soils composed of pink quartz and ironstone, provide a formidable substrate in which the vines takes a tenuous hold.

Vintage Conditions

Right across South Australia, the 2019 vintage will be remembered as a very challenging one. Very dry conditions persisted throughout the growing season while some areas also had to contend with frost, hail and wind – all of which reduced the crop but helped increase concentration and quality. In the Eden Valley, very low rainfall resulted in very low yields and a relatively early vintage but the fruit quality was exceptional.

Winemaking

Our fruit is sourced from one low yielding block in Joel Mattschoss' Mengler's Hill vineyard. The fruit is hand-picked and transferred to the winery. 20% of the total weight is placed in whole bunches in a concrete egg while the balance is crushed and placed on top. A spontaneous fermentation with no physical extraction aims to capture the rugged beauty of the vineyard while preserving the energy and vitality that are the hallmarks of our style. A brief post fermentation maceration is followed by pressing and transfer to 300 litre French hogsheads, of which 50% are new. 12 months later, the wine is bottled unfiltered and unfiltered.

Tasting

Intense, tightly coiled and vital, this wine is like a great orator. Every component measured and well timed, the tone lifts and falls, all the while building emotion and resonance. Tension and excitement builds and leads through to a memorable finish. Oh, and it tastes amazing!

Alcohol: 14.5%

Total Acidity: 6.2 g/l

pH: 3.55

Residual Sugar: 1 g/l

SO₂: 70 mg/l

Fining: None

Vegan: Yes

Vegetarian: Yes

