# Cloud Cuckoo Land

# Montepulciano Nero d'Avola 2021

### Riverland

Cloud Cuckoo Land is an imaginary state of absurd over optimism – something that we at Wild & Wilder are often accused of. Indeed, not so long ago, if we'd said that we wanted to make high quality, low intervention wines made from Mediterranean varieties in the Riverland, Cloud Cuckoo land is exactly where people would have said that we lived! But, we believe that anything is possible if you don't see the obstacles, you challenge the "received wisdom" and resist the naysayers. Cloud Cuckoo Land is for everyone who feels the same.

## Vintage Conditions
Rare is the vintage that combines good yields and high quality but 2021 was just that. A remarkable vintage in that it was once again pandemic affected but that it was measured and mild with none of the heat spikes or drought conditions of recent years. With good levels of winter rains filling soil profiles, the mild weather with intermittent rains throughout the growing and ripening season ensured that fruit ripened over a long period of time and the vintage was one of the longest in recent history. The results are spectacular, healthy fruit, moderate sugars and complex flavours, have resulted in wines of beautiful balance, fragrance and varietal typicity.

## Viticulture
As we like to pick 'on the way up' our season began quickly with several varieties ripening at once but then progressed nicely, with the ability to pick when it suited given the settled weather.

## Winemaking
We co-fermented using wild yeasts with gentle hand plunging twice daily before pressing and ageing in older oak for 3 months prior to bottling

## Tasting
An unusual blend of varieties but this wine has the characteristic energy you'd expect from Italian reds. Deliciously succulent with smoky, dark cherry fruit, subtle spice and a mouth-watering finish.

**Blend:** Montepulciano 60% Nero 28% Barbera 12%

**Alcohol:** 13%
**Total Acidity**: 5.25 g/l
**pH**: 3.7
**Residual Sugar**: <2 g/l
**SO2**: 51 mg/l
**Fining:** None
**Vegan**: Yes
**Vegetarian**: Yes