



Midnight Rainbow of McLaren Vale Petite Sirah 2021

Dandelion Vineyards
wish you were here...

Midnight Rainbow is our most mysterious McLaren Vale vineyard...



Background

Dandelion Vineyards is a unique fusion of vineyards and vigneron. Our wines represent decades of experience, blending the fruit of our old vine gardens with the finest traditions of artisan winemaking.

Dandelion Vineyards are proven plantings that have stood the test of time. Our wish is to nurture the unique character of these vineyards and express their terroir in our wines.

Capturing variety, vintage and vineyard requires an enlightened approach and although our growers see the Devil in every weed, we encourage the humble Dandelion amongst the vines as they suppress winter weeds, provide mulch in summer, and proffer their Wishing Clocks in spring to blow off to make our wish come true.

The Midnight Rainbow Petite Sirah is part of our Firehawk Farm, a single biodynamically run vineyard perched atop an ancient ridge overlooking McLaren Vale, the Willunga Escarpment and the Gulf of St Vincent. Firehawk is our Native Bird of Prey that soars over our vineyards; acting as scarecrows to other birds, rabbits and the like that eat ripening grapes.

The vineyard is handpicked by family and friends in mid-March. We gently crushed the fruit into top fermenters. After 10 days of fermentation, the wine was basket pressed into French oak barrels, a third new and the balance seasoned. This was followed by 18 months maturation with minimal winemaking artefact before bottling, to capture the essence of the vineyard. This wine captures all the colours and intensity of a rainbow in the night. This wine will reward cellaring and decanting.

Tasting Notes

Colour

Dark and deep purple; bright and alluring.

Nose

Cola nuts, spice, roasted meats and gravy; soy sauce, bay leaf, fresh rosemary and sage; Christmas cake, raisins, blackberries, green pepper. Exotic and enticing: a deft balance between wine-making bouquet and vineyard aromatics.

Palate

A grainy, graphite texture. Rich and deep at the initial sip, then clean, clear dark berry fruits combined with taut acidity sweep through. Dry and drying tannins at the palate's end. This red wine is a gentle giant; it has an earthiness yet also a refinement. It might viewed simply seem a super-powered red, but more thoughtfully considered it shows a subtlety and suaveness.

Drink

Delicious with a very mild chicken korma, or serve at cellar temperature with a long, slowly cooked ratatouille and an olive tapenade. A 'beaker full of the warm South', indeed.

Specifics

Composition: 100% Petite Sirah
Alcohol: 14.5%

Wish you were here...

Zar Brooks, *Typist & tba*,
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