



## Midnight Rainbow of McLaren Vale Petite Sirah 2019

**Dandelion Vineyards**  
wish you were here...

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Midnight Rainbow is our most mysterious McLaren Vale vineyard

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### 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 black-purple and deep and grainy; undrycleanable. Like Johnny Cash, wear black.

#### Nose

Cassis, blackberry, plums and stewed plums - both fresh fruits and preserved. Mocha and musk; dry, dusty roads. Deep underlying aromatics of dark berry fruits, eucalyptus, and fennel. There is an earthy honesty to this red wine's bouquet, which is both enticing and demanding.

#### Palate

Dry, and dry... Dusty tannins that roll and roll and roll, unendingly. The deep, dark fruit core is irresistible, however, satiating the drying tannins. But then after that dark fruit comes a chalkiness and a friendly gruffness. Alcohol is in check; acid in balance; doors and all hatches closed ready for take off. There is a lot of red wine in this bottle, but it never beats or berates you when in the glass. Power and glory.

#### Drink

Long-stewed oxtail cooked in stout. Proper sausages cooked with lentils. Or Petit Sale with Petite Sirah? Indubitably. A dish and a wine speaking the same language. A winter wine or a night time wine.

#### Specifics

*Composition:* 100% Petite Sirah  
*Alcohol:* 14.5%

#### Wish you were here...

Zar Brooks, *Typist & tba*,  
Elena Brooks, *BSc (Oenology)*  
Adelaide Winemaker

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