

Dandelion Vineyards,  
`Wonderland of the Eden Valley` Riesling 2016  
Eden Valley, South Australia, Australia



|                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Grape Varieties | <b>100% Riesling</b> |
| Winemaker       | <b>Elena Brooks</b>  |
| Closure         | <b>Screwcap</b>      |
| ABV             | <b>10.5%</b>         |
| Residual Sugar  | <b>1g/L</b>          |
| Acidity         | <b>8.8g/L</b>        |
| Wine pH         | <b>2.9</b>           |
| Bottle Sizes    | <b>75cl</b>          |

## PRODUCER

Dandelion Vineyards is the venture of talented winemaker Elena Brooks, and her husband Zar. Their project makes wines from the Barossa and Eden Valleys, Fleurieu, the Adelaide Hills and McLaren Vale. Elena hails from Bulgaria. Her mother worked for a local producer, and so much of Elena's childhood was spent in a winery. By 15, she was well-versed in the ins and outs of the winemaking process, and by 16, she had made her first wine. After formal study and stints making wine worldwide, Elena eventually settled in McLaren Vale with Zar and founded Dandelion Vineyards. Nick Stock, one of Australia's leading journalists, wrote about Dandelion Vineyards saying, "The approach is remarkably simple and sees Elena making wine from a suite of beautiful old vineyards across that blessed curve that runs from the Barossa, up through the Eden Valley and Adelaide Hills and down into McLaren Vale."

## VINEYARDS

Colin Kroehn has tended his Eden Valley Riesling for 67 of his 87 years. The Wonderland of the Eden Valley is made entirely from his vineyard which was planted in 1912 and produces excellent fruit. He encourages the growth of dandelion among the vines as they suppress the winter weeds and provide mulch in the summer to help retain soil moisture.

## VINTAGE

The 2016 vintage in the Barossa's Eden Valley saw warm and dry weather overall with no disease pressure. One magnificent rain event at the end of January was perfectly timed to avoid vine stress at veraison.

## VINIFICATION

Whole bunches from Dandelion's oldest vineyard, over 100 years old, were hand picked in the cool of the early morning on 16th March and destemmed in small batches without crushing. The free run juice was fermented in small stainless steel tanks between 11°C and 14°C. It was bottled directly without fining or filtration to capture the essence of the vineyard.

## TASTING NOTES

Pale straw in colour with youthful hints around the rim. On the nose, there are aromas of lime blossom and honey suckle flower. Clean citrus fruit, mandarin, bergamot, lemon, grapefruit and lime are on the palate with lemon meringue flavours present on the long finish.

## AWARDS

Sommelier Wine Awards 2017, Gold  
Matthew Jukes 100 Best 2017, Matthew Jukes