

Willunga 100,

`The Hundred Blewitt Springs` McLaren Vale Grenache 2018

McLaren Vale, South Australia, Australia



WILLUNGA 100



PRODUCER

Willunga 100 is in McLaren Vale, south of Adelaide. The grapes come from a range of selected vineyards in McLaren Vale, including some over 80 years old. Head winemaker Renae Hirsch is supported by Mike Farmilo who has 40 years of experience working in McLaren Vale. Together they aim to produce unique and distinctive wines which capture the essence of the region. They use modern equipment alongside traditional winemaking techniques to ferment the small parcels of fruit arriving at the winery. The term "hundred" originates from late Saxon and Norman England and refers to an administrative unit of government, meaning that 100+ households had to live in the area to qualify for its place on the map. Willunga 100 select their fruit from small parcels just as the district was divided up into '100s', or small lots.

VINEYARDS

The grapes for this wine come from outstanding 80-year-old bush vines grown in Blewitt Springs on ancient sandy soils with an underlying clay and ironstone base. Blewitt Springs is a subregion of McLaren Vale, tucked back in the hills next to the Onkaparinga Gorge, where the days are slightly cooler and the nights notably cooler than the McLaren Vale floor. This cooler air is due to the gully breezes which are further moderated by the proximity to the nearby Gulf St Vincent. In 2017, Willunga 100 were rewarded with two outstanding parcels of single vineyard Grenache from two different subregions in The Hundred range.

VINTAGE

A good wet season in 2017 replenished water reserves, setting up the vines for a healthy start to the 2018 vintage. The growing season in 2018 was quite dry, reducing overall vigour and minimising disease pressure. Around average yields were seen across McLaren Vale in 2018 after a higher than average crop in 2017. Overall the vintage has produced some beautiful wines with really concentrated flavour and great tannins.

VINIFICATION

Fruit was hand harvested, destemmed and whole berry sorted into stainless steel, open fermenters. The whole berry ferment spent 10 days on skins, during which time it was gently plunged to ensure optimum extraction whilst maintaining the delicate aromatics. The wine was basket-pressed off the skins before ageing on fine lees in stainless steel to retain fruit purity and freshness, for 12 months prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES

The wine has a bright, lifted nose of red berries. This profile continues onto the palate where the red berry fruits are complemented by warm, cinnamon spice and fine-grained tannins. The wine finishes with a bright, orange-like acidity.

Grape Varieties	100% Grenache
Winemaker	Mike Farmilo
Closure	Screwcap
ABV	14.5%
Residual Sugar	0.4g/L
Acidity	5.62g/L
Wine pH	3.19
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Vegetarian, Vegan