

S.C. Pannell,
`Smart Vineyard` Clarendon Grenache 2019
McLaren Vale, South Australia, Australia



S.C. PANNELL
MCLAREN VALE



PRODUCER

In a very short space of time, Stephen Pannell has gone from being one of Australia's best and brightest young talents to one of their most lauded winemakers. He is a two-time winner of the fabled Jimmy Watson Trophy, the most prestigious wine award in Australia, and also won the top prize at the Alternative Varietals Wine Show three times. Stephen moved into his own McLaren Vale winery in 2014, and now owns 36 hectares of vineyard. This control over his fruit has enabled him to take quality to an even higher level. One of the key factors behind his success is the freshness in all his wines, something he achieves by picking earlier. "I can only pick early due to better viticulture". As with all his wine projects, Stephen's winemaking philosophy remains steadfast: fruit grown in the right place with considerable attention in the vineyard requires minimal intervention in the winery.

VINEYARDS

The 'Smart' vineyard is on the edge of the Clarendon township. At 230 metres above sea level, it is the highest Grenache vineyard in the whole of McLaren Vale. 'Saddleworth formation' soils of up to 750 million years old are composed of laminated dark grey and green siltstone. The 65-year-old Grenache bush vines are dry grown and yield hugely concentrated fruit. The vines are tended to and the grapes are harvested by hand.

VINIFICATION

Upon arrival at the winery, the grapes were destemmed and crushed. Fermentation took place in open-top fermenters with just eight days on the skins before gentle pressing, with no hard pressings used in the final blend. The wine was then transferred to 2750 litre seven-year-old French oak vats for malolactic conversion and maturation for around 10 months.

TASTING NOTES

A beautifully perfumed style of Grenache with intense aromas of ripe raspberries, violets, roses, woody herbs and spice on the nose. Succulent red fruits and a subtle earthiness on the palate with firm but ripe tannins, a vibrant acidity and a lingering finish.

Grape Varieties	100% Grenache
Winemaker	Stephen Pannell
Closure	Screwcap
ABV	14.5%
Bottle Sizes	75cl