

Mount Horrocks,  
**Clare Valley Nero d'Avola 2021**  
Clare Valley, South Australia, Australia

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### PRODUCER

Mount Horrocks Wines is run by proprietor/winemaker Stephanie Toole. Stephanie restricts production to approximately 2,500 cases per annum in order to achieve her aims of quality and single vineyard expression. Stephanie describes her wines as 'essentially hand made food wines with an emphasis on structure as well as generous fruit flavours'. All grapes are 100% estate grown from three separate vineyard sites totalling nearly 10 hectares which were 'A grade certified' by Australian Certified Organic and Biodynamic (ACO) in 2014 and 2021 respectively. Her persistence with classic, no-compromise winemaking and a fully integrated organic and biodynamic approach to growing and making sets Mount Horrocks apart from the mainstream.

### VINEYARDS

Stephanie planted her Watervale vineyard to Nero d'Avola in 2008 after falling in love with the variety on a holiday to Sicily. The vineyard is northerly facing, soils are red clay over limestone and the low-yielding vines are trained to vertical shoot position.

### VINTAGE

2021 was Horrocks' first certified biodynamic vintage and it was an excellent vintage in the Clare Valley. Summer was cool, which promoted a slow, gentle ripening. The quality of the fruit was excellent and yields were slightly lower than average due to a lack of water.

### VINIFICATION

The hand-picked fruit was crushed, destemmed and cold soaked before fermentation took place on skins in an open fermenter to improve the structure of the wine. Malolactic conversion took place in stainless steel tanks. It was then racked into barriques and matured for 12 months in French oak, 20% of which was new.

### TASTING NOTES

Bright red with lifted, generous aromas of red berry fruit and floral notes. The palate is bursting with cherry and other red berries, lively spice and a crisp, tangy edge. So fresh and zippy, with typical 'Italian' minerality, gentle but firm tannins and long-lasting fruitiness on the palate.

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| Grape Varieties | <b>100% Nero d'Avola</b>  |
| Winemaker       | <b>Stephanie Toole</b>  |
| Closure         | <b>Screwcap</b>   |
| ABV             | <b>14%</b>  |
| Residual Sugar  | <b>1.2g/L</b>   |
| Acidity         | <b>7.09g/L</b>  |
| Wine pH         | <b>3.4</b>  |
| Bottle Sizes    | <b>75cl</b>   |
| Notes           | <b>Certified Biodynamic, Certified Organic, Vegetarian, Vegan</b> |