Dandelion Vineyards,

`Pride of the Fleurieu` Cabernet Sauvignon 2023

Fleurieu Peninsula, South Australia, Australia



Grape Varieties	**100% Cabernet Sauvignon**
Winemaker	**Elena Brooks**
Closure	**Screwcap**
ABV	**13.5%**
Residual Sugar	**1g/L**
Acidity	**7.01g/L**
Wine pH	**3.42**
Bottle Sizes	**75cl**
Notes	**Vegetarian, Vegan**

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

With a prime position overlooking the Finniss River wetlands, Stranger's Reach vineyard is cooled by the maritime influence of the Great Southern Ocean and nearby Lake Alexandrina. Deep alluvial soils and low rainfall help the tough Cabernet vines produce rich flavours in the berries.

VINTAGE

The 2023 vintage was long and cool, with a late growing season. It saw one of the latest harvest on record for the estate, beginning on 24th April. The yields were lower than average but the grapes held true balance thanks to the mild end to the summer.

VINIFICATION

Selected bunches were hand picked by family and friends and gently crushed into open-top stainless steel fermenters. After fermentation, the wine was basket pressed into predominately (90%) older 300L French oak hogsheds for ageing for 18 months, then bottled without filtration or fining.

TASTING NOTES

This Cabernet Sauvignon has a dark purple colour with bright violet edges. On the nose, it has aromas of blueberry, blackberry, raspberry and cassis, with hints of menthol and fennel. The palate is rich, deep and intensely flavoured with blueberry and blackberry. It has round, powdery Cabernet tannins that are softened by smooth, mouth-filling fruit before an extended finish.