



S.C. PANNELL  
WINEMAKER

# Smart Grenache 2020

Stephen's interest in Grenache stretches back to the mid 90's upon first arriving in McLaren Vale. A preference for making medium bodied wine lead him to Grenache and the love affair began. Given the warm, Mediterranean-climate, Grenache grows as well in McLaren Vale as any of the more revered Grenache regions including France's Rhone Valley, Priorat in Spain and Italy's Sardinia. It's medium bodied nature also makes it ideal for our food, life style and climate.

It is unusual and rare to find 100% Grenache wines, as most of the time it is blended. Stephen has been making a varietal Grenache from McLaren Vale for the past 22 years and can now provocatively state that he thinks it ages more gracefully than McLaren Vale Shiraz. Grenache will become McLaren Vale's most recognised wine and our true wine of place.

## THE VINTAGE

How best to describe a vintage in a pandemic? Problematic. A dry start to the season with lower than expected winter and spring rainfall followed by a day of intense heat right on flowering lead to some early anxiety around yields. Fires and the devastation they bring struck around Christmas and many of our growers losing the livelihoods weighed heavy as we went into vintage. Thankfully the days got cooler sooner than anticipated allowing long even ripening. A year to remember and be thankful.

## WINEMAKING

<b>Variety</b>	100% Grenache Noir /Garnacha Tinta/ Garnaxa/ Cannonau
<b>Varietal Origin</b>	Sardinia or Spain; an ancient variety with origins that are hotly contested.
<b>Vineyard</b>	65-year-old, dry-grown, bush-vine vineyard on the edge of Clarendon, farmed by Bernie and Wayne Smart
<b>Process</b>	Hand-picked on the 17th of March. Perfect bunches with no shrivel and a Baume of 13.7. Fermented in an open top fermenter with daily pump overs and 10 days on skins before gently pressing with no hard pressings used. Transferred after settling to a 2800L 9-year-old vat and 2 XL puncheons. Racked twice and bottled, without filtration, late June 2021. 5,300 bottles produced.
<b>Alcohol</b>	14%
<b>Ph</b>	3.3
<b>TA</b>	6.6
<b>Total Sulphur</b>	56 ppm



## FOR THE SENSES

### Flavour Profile

Intensely perfumed, strangely reminiscent of the 80's, citrus peel, framboise, kirsch, turned rose wood and musk lollies. A flavour invasion of citrus peel and raspberry, musk lollies, cherry pips, rosewater and exotic spice.

### Structure & Texture

Composed, juicy and seductive with velvety tannins and a 'gotcha' moment on the back palate that funnels the tannins into a fine point. Achingly long finish.

## CELLARING

Keep it for up to 10+ years.

## SERVING

Side by side with Old McDonald Grenache and a slow Roast Shoulder of Lamb with Palestinian Spices in Zaitoun by Yasmin Khan.