

S.C. PANNELL
GRENACHE
SUNRISE 99

Stephen's interest in Grenache stretches back to the mid-nineties. Upon arriving in McLaren Vale, a preference for making medium bodied wine led Stephen to Grenache and the love affair began. Given the region's warm Mediterranean climate and proximity to the ocean Grenache is ideally suited to McLaren Vale and perfectly at home with our food and lifestyle.

In 2021 the opportunity to purchase a nine hectare Grenache vineyard planted in 1922 in the heart of Blewitt Springs including two bush vine blocks one facing the morning sun and the other warmed by the setting sun, was too good to pass up. Finally, Stephen had a home for S.C. Pannell Grenache.

THE VINTAGE

The second year of the current La Nina cycle saw a wild, wet winter and spring followed by a mild summer and a dry autumn leading to veraison being two weeks behind normal. Poor flowering due to wild spring weather including high winds, frost and hail led to lower than desired yields. However, a long, slow ripening period allowed tannins to fully mature making this vintage one to watch.

WINEMAKING

Vineyard	Block 5, Little Branch Vineyard, Blewitt Springs, 103-year-old bush vines grown on typical Blewitt Springs sand at 140m above sea level facing East. Unirigated, managed organically, pruned and harvested by hand.
Process	The 99th vintage for the Sunrise block started with harvest on the 14th of March. Whole berries were gently shaken from the rachis and sent to a stainless steel fermenter for twice daily pumpovers. Gently pressed on the 29th of March and settled in tank for seven weeks before racking off gross lees and dispatch to a ten year old French oak vat for malolactic fermentation and maturation. Racked once and bottled on the 1st of August 2023 without fining or filtration.

Alcohol	14.5%
Ph	3.33
TA	6.5
Total Sulphur	61 ppm

FOR THE SENSES

All to say and nothing at all. The greatest of all red table wines that Stephen has tried defy easy description. They are powerful yet restrained, elegant whilst commanding attention are medium bodied with tension and tannin. They have purity and clarity and speak of the season and the soil. No one character dominates; the flavours are layered and unfurl slowly.

You might find raspberry, cherry, Luxardo, cumin, citrus, grilled nuts, apricots on the tree, coffee, Turkish delight, spring flowers, sea spray and the purity of a mountain stream.

CELLARING

Patience will be rewarded. Give it twenty years in a cool cellar.

SERVING

Please decant well before service. Try with Peking duck.