



Thistledown, Where Eagles Dare Single Vineyard Shiraz, Eden Valley, Barossa, Australia, 2021

Producer Profile

Masters of Wine, Giles Cooke & Fergal Tynan, founded Thistledown Wines in 2010 after discovering iconic vineyard sites in the McLaren Vale, Barossa Valley and Adelaide Hills.

They make hand-made, small batch wines that perfectly illustrate the benefits of great sites and intelligent, minimalist winemaking.

Viticulture

Perched high above the Barossa, the Eden Valley can be a precarious but highly rewarding place in which to grow grapes. This single vineyard, at 550m above sea level is hauntingly beautiful. Home to the majestic wedgetail eagle, the soils composed of pink quartz and ironstone, provide a formidable substrate in which the vines take a tenuous hold. Fruit is sourced from one low yielding block in Joel Mattschoss' Mengler's Hill vineyard. The fruit is hand-picked and transferred to the winery.

Winemaking

20% of the total weight is placed in whole bunches in a concrete egg while the balance is crushed and placed on top. A spontaneous fermentation with no physical extraction aims to capture the rugged beauty of the vineyard while preserving the energy and vitality that are the hallmarks of our style. A brief post fermentation maceration is followed by pressing and transfer to 300 litre French hogsheads, of which 50% are new. 12 months later, the wine is bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

Tasting Note

Intense, tightly coiled and vital, this wine is like a great orator. Beautifully complex, red and black bramble fruits support the nuances of spice and peppery notes. Every component measured and well timed, the tone lifts and falls, all the while building emotion and resonance. Tension and excitement builds and leads through to a memorable finish. Oh, and it tastes amazing!

Food Matching

Big meaty dishes, with rich and reductive sauces.

Awards

The Wine Advocate 93 Points



Product code: 3848

Technical Details

Varieties:

Shiraz 100%



ABV: 14.5%

Closure: Cork Stopper

Colour: Red

Style: Still wine

Case Size: 6 x 75cl

Oak Ageing

Time: 12 months

Type: 300 litre French hogsheads

% wine oaked: 100

% new oak: 50

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