



Product code: 2114

THISTLEDOWN, SHE'S ELECTRIC SINGLE VINEYARD OLD VINE GRENACHE, MCLAREN VALE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, AUSTRALIA, 2020



Producer Profile

Ever since historic Scots, James Busby and John MacArthur founded the Australian wine industry in the early 19th century, the relationship between Scotland and Australia has been an enduring one.

Guardians of a long history, Thistledown Wine Co. continues the tradition of Scottish ingenuity and great Australian wine. From their small-batch winery in the idyllic Adelaide Hills, they work with pristine fruit sourced from iconic vineyard sites.

Viticulture

Some vineyards have a remarkable story to tell and we came upon such a vineyard in late 2016. At the Seaview end of Chapel Hill Rd, it's old bush vines contrasted by a planting of much younger Grenache. Apparently, half of the vineyard was burned when a bird caught light on a power line, fell to the ground and set light to the vineyard! We were so glad that some of the amazing old vines are still there for us to use. Dry grown, old bush vines, grown on red-brown sandy loams with quartz and ironstone. Low intervention viticulture with minimal spray regime, cover crops and promotion of biodiversity.

Winemaking

The fruit was hand-picked early in the morning before swift transport to the winery where they retained 50% whole bunches. A gentle foot pressing helped establish the wild ferment. Once fermented, the wine was transferred to 300 litre used French oak hogsheads where it stayed for 6 months before being bottled unfiltered and unfiltered.

Tasting Note

Aromatic and lifted on the nose with a beautifully layered, textural palate with wild strawberry and spice.

Food Matching

North African and Middle eastern cuisine or robust fish dishes.

Awards

The Real Review 93 Points

Medium ruby colour in the core with a hint of purple in the rim. Crushed strawberry and raspberry aromatics. Very bright and slippery palate, layered red berry fruit and dry herbs, hint of sea-spray as well. Wonderfully bright acidity keeping it light and tight but still powers into the finish with great drive and a good fuzz of tannins dries the finish nicely. 93 Points, SK, March 2021.

The Wine Companion 95 Points

Dry-grown fruit, low yields, old oak and 50% whole bunches. All good things! A limpid mid ruby. A nose suggestive of the sort of thirst-slaking succulence marking all wines here: rosehip, bracken, clove, kirsch, cranberry, bergamot, Turkish delight and iodine. Sweet of flavour, yet not an iota of jamminess. Measured. Savoury, spicy and honed by an attenuated limb of bony tannins. The extraction on a level that sets the bar. High. 95 Points, NG

Technical Details

Varieties:

Grenache 100%

ABV: 13.5%

Closure: Screw cap

Colour: Red

Style: Still wine

Case Size: 6 x 75cl

Oak Treatment

Time: 6 Months

Type: French 300l oak hogshead

% wine oaked: 100

% new oak: None

James Suckling 96 Points

Has a bunchy, deeply complex nose with fruit sitting in the red and blueberry spectrum. Some frisky, ferment, meat and wild herb, too. Plenty of structure and tannin with good depth of summer-berry flavor. Sturdy. Drink over the next six years. 96 Points, NS, 2021.

The Wine Anorak 95 Points

This is from a single 75 year old vineyard, and 50% of the grapes were fermented whole bunch with gentle hand plungin. Sweet, pure aromatics. On the palate, lovely red fruits with cherries and plums. Sleek and pretty, this is fine-grained and detailed. Lovely purity. 95/100, JG, Sept 2021