



Product code: 3095

THISTLEDOWN, SILKEN BEASTIE SHIRAZ, BAROSSA VALLEY, AUSTRALIA, 2018



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

Drawing on fruit from Ebenezer, Kalimna and Koonunga regions of north west Barossa, fruit was characteristically picked on the way up rather than the way down with a proportion hand picked and retained as whole bunches in the ferment.

Winemaking

The remaining fruit was gently destemmed to leave whole berries before a native yeast ferment with twice daily hand plunges to aid gentle extraction. Each component part was aged separately for 6 months prior to blending and then a further 12 months in 300l French oak, of which 30% was new. The wine was then bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

Tasting Note

Complex and concentrated yet pleasingly light on it's feet. Free your mind from stereotypes of the past, be willing to give things another go and imagine the beauty and subtlety that can be borne of an otherwise hostile environment. Not afraid to do the same themselves, it's taken a second incarnation before they were convinced that they had captured the real beauty of the Barossa.

Food Matching

North African and Middle eastern cuisine or robust fish dishes.

Awards

The Wine Companion 91 Points

A meld of fruit from Ebenezer, Kalimna and Koonunga has been handled minimally: fermented indigenously with the inclusion of a small percentage of whole-bunch. The result is rich and seamless. Bitter chocolate. Lilac. Anise, Liquorice. Damson plum and searingly ripe black cherry, with a solid riff of oak. A polished full-bodied wine that will please many. 91 Points, NG, Aug 2020

Robert Parkers The Wine Advocate 93 Points

Made with 40% whole clusters from three sites in the northwestern Barossa Valley and aged over a year in 30% new oak, the 2018 Silken Beastie Shiraz lives up to its name, delivering raspberries, vanilla and mint on a full-bodied, creamy palate framed by silky tannins. It's mouthwatering and long on the finish, only slowly fading away. 93 Points

Technical Details

Varieties:
Shiraz 100%

ABV: 14.5%

Closure: Screw cap

Colour: Red

Style: Still wine

Case Size: 6 x 75cl

Oak Treatment

Time: 12 Months

Type: 300l French Oak

% wine oaked: 100

% new oak: 30