



# Thistledown, The Distant Light Shiraz- Grenache, McLaren Vale & 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

A detailed, complex tapestry of vineyards comprising young and old, trellised and bush-vine, their common thread being vibrant, energetic fruit that is concentrated but balanced. The Grenache comes from Sue Trott's Home Block in Blewitt Springs and Bernard Smart's vineyard in Clarendon. The former bush vine on sand and the latter bush vine of clay loams with quartz and ironstone. The Shiraz components come from Joel Mattschoss' Shiraz on Mengler's Hill and 2 blocks of Andy Kalleske's blocks in Koonunga/Ebenezer. All are trellised, 2 spur pruned, Joel's cane pruned.

## Winemaking

Though the winemaking was hugely detailed, the aim was to create something seamless. All fruit was hand-picked and wild fermented with varying percentage of whole bunch and a generally gentle extraction process. Ageing in a mix of concrete and larger French oak. No fining or filtration.

## Tasting Note

An intoxicating, ethereal nose of sweet, spicy black cherry, cassis and balsam. The palate unravels its silky, textural beauty over the palate. Draped with wild strawberry, north African spice, autumnal wood smoke and hints of smoky, grilled meats, it displays an elegant persistence.

## Food Matching

Turkey, rich tomato based pasta sauce, and maybe even a slow braised lamb ragu.

## Awards

**James Suckling 94 Points**



Product code: 3769

### Technical Details

#### Varieties:

Grenache 51%

Shiraz 49%



**ABV:** 14.5%

**Closure:** Cork Stopper

**Colour:** Red

**Style:** Still wine

**Case Size:** 6 x 75cl

#### Oak Ageing

**Type:** Large French Oak barrels

**% wine oaked:** 100

**% new oak:** None

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