



FIRST DROP
- WINES -



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- WINES -

**HOME OF
THE BRAVE**

CELLAR DOOR

BAROSSA ● ADELAIDE HILLS ● MCLAREN VALE

THE PHILOSOPHY OF



FIRST DROP
- W I N E S -

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THE FIRST DROP STORY

“Where two decades of winemaking passion and creativity come to life.”

Born in 2004 with a thirst for creating wines meant to be enjoyed, not just admired. First Drop Wines is known for crafting deliciously exciting wines that not only stand the test of time but continue to push the boundaries of innovation.

The First Drop heritage traces back through generations of agriculturalists, winemakers and wine lovers. With a strong connection to land and a dedication to hard work, John Retsas and the First Drop family lead with quality, sustainability and purity at the forefront. We source only the finest fruit from the Adelaide Hills, McLaren Vale, Eden Valley and the Barossa Valley to achieve diversity, complexity and flavour.

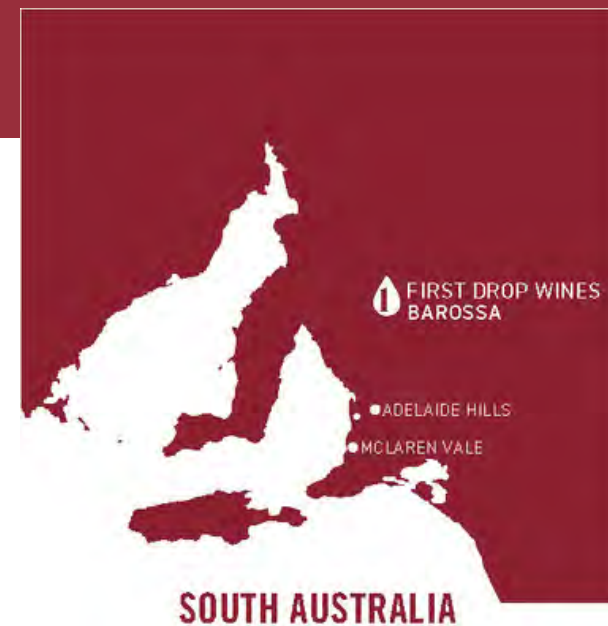
Our ‘Home of the Brave’ Winery is nestled in the heart of the Barossa Valley. Here, at the hands of our artisan winemakers, we remain dedicated to producing wines that are vibrant, modern expressions of their varieties, their sites and the season. Join us in raising a glass to 20 years of blending tradition with a splash of the unconventional.



THE WINES

“A sensibility for tradition with a passion for innovation.”

Under our minimal intervention winemaking philosophy, we ensure that each drop is relevant, incredibly drinkable and most importantly – the best expression of the varietal and regional character. To achieve this, we work with a network of growers all year round to ensure the appropriate care and consideration has gone into vineyard management. The distinguished regions we source from combine rich soils, ranging altitudes and ample sunlight to produce fruits with great depth and intense flavour. Through our sustainable and purposeful blending, the quality of the fruit is then translated into your glass.



ADELAIDE HILLS

Mike Bennie WBM

2018 'Minchia' Montepulciano - 93 Points

2022 'Real Time Chardonnay - 91 Points

'Endless Summer' Pinot Grigio - 91 Points

"...Excellent. It's bright and crisp, crunchy and revitalising. A grassy, green apple and just-ripe brown pear kinda deal here. Shimmers with lemony tartness around the more conventional Grigio characters meaning the end result is summery and super easy drinking."

James Suckling

2021 'Moderno' Barbera - 93 Points

"A barbera with plenty of dark fruits, orange peel and other citrus fruit. Medium body. Fruity and juicy but the underlying acidity keeps it varietal and fresh. Says drink me!"

2022 'Real Time' Chardonnay - 91 Points

James Halliday

2022 'Real Time' Chardonnay - 92 Points

"Plenty of tight Hills focus on display with a driving mineral line and a finish that shows good sustain and spicy apple and peach fruit at its core!"

2018 'Forza' Nebbiolo - 92 Points

Nick Stock

'Vivo' Arneis

"The best Arneis outside of Italy".



**'ENDLESS SUMMER'
PINOT GRIGIO**



**'VIVO'
ARNEIS**



**'REAL TIME'
CHARDONNAY**



**'MODERNO'
BARBERA**



**'FORZA'
NEBBIOLO**



**'MINCHIA'
MONTEPULCIANO**

BAROSSA VALLEY

JAMES HALLIDAY

TOP VALUE WINES - MARCH 2022

2020 'The Matador' Barossa Grenache - 92 Points
2020 & 2021 'Mother's Milk' Barossa Shiraz - 94 Points

TOP 40 SHIRAZ - FEBRUARY 2024

2019 'The Cream' Barossa Shiraz | 96 Points

Deep crimson. Opulent and powerful with intense dark plum, black cherry and blackberry fruits, layers of fruitcake spice, 'Old Jamaican' chocolate, licorice, ironstone and turned earth. Plush, pure and humming with latent power, superfine tannins providing the framework. It could come from no where else but the Barossa. A cracker.

JAMES SUCKLING

2021 'The Matador' Grenache - 92 Points
2020 '2%' Barossa Shiraz - 94 Points

TOP 100 VALUE WINES OF 2020 & 2021

2020 Mother's Milk Barossa Shiraz #36 - 94 Points
2021 Mother's Milk Barossa Shiraz # 29- 92 Points

TOP 100 WINES OF THE YEAR | TOP 100 WINES OF AUSTRALIA

2018 'The Cream' Barossa Shiraz - 98 Points

WINE SPECTATOR

'Mother's Milk' Barossa Shiraz

TOP 100 BEST WINES OF 2022 #26 out of 100
TOP 100 BEST WINES OF 2023 #38 out of 100

THE REAL REVIEW

2018 'Fat of the Land' Ebenezer Shiraz - 95 Points
2018 'The Cream' Barossa Shiraz - 95 Points
2020 'Cold Sweat' Mocolta Syrah - 95 Points



'THE MATADOR'
GRENACHE



'MOTHER'S MILK'
SHIRAZ



'DOS POR CIENTO (2%)'
SHIRAZ MOSCATEL



'COLD SWEAT'
EDEN VALLEY SYRAH SERIES



'FAT OF THE LAND'
BAROSSA SHIRAZ SERIES



'THE CREAM'
BAROSSA SHIRAZ

MCLAREN VALE

James Halliday

2020 & 2022 'Nacional' Touriga Nacional - 92 Points

2019 'Mother's Ruin' Cabernet Sauvignon - 92 Point

"Shows a deep crimson hue and lifted aromas of bright blackcurrant and blackberry fruits along with hints of baking spices, licorice, blackcurrant jubes, dried herbs, sarsaparilla, cloves, mint and pipe tobacco. Pure black fruit on the palate segues to a savoury palate shape with a nice cadence, tight, fine tannins and a herb-flecked blackcurrant pastille exit."

James Suckling

2020 'Nacional' Touriga Nacional - 92 Points

"This has such attractive, fresh red plums and wet stones with light, bright white pepper and blackcurrants. The palate has sleek, layered and fine tannins with bright, fresh blueberry and blackcurrant flavors. So supple and balanced."

2019 'Mother's Ruin' Cabernet Sauvignon- 92 Points

Australian Alternative Varieties Wine Show 2021

'Nacional' Touriga Nacional

GOLD MEDAL - 96 POINTS



'MOTHER'S RUIN'
CABERNET SAUVIGNON



'NACIONAL'
TOURIGA NACIONAL

RECENT REVIEWS

2022/23 WAS A YEAR THAT SAW FIRST DROP WINES FURTHER ESTABLISH ITSELF BOTH NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY AS ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S PREMIUM WINE PRODUCERS, WITH SOME OUTSTANDING REVIEWS.

TOP 100 BEST WINES 2022 & 2023 - WINE SPECTATOR

THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW THAT OUR FLAGSHIP WINE HAS MADE THE LIST.

FIRST DROP MOTHER'S MILK 2021, BAROSSA SHIRAZ | 92 Points

"A compelling red on a juicy, fresh frame, with smooth, polished tannins and fresh pomegranate and maraschino cherry flavors at the core, showing details of milk chocolate, nutmeg and white peppercorn, plus an appealing hint of toasted herbs and fresh earth. Reveals tannins that firm up on the finish, which packs a spicy kick." MaryAnn Worobiec, Wine Spectator

CRITICS CHOICE 2016, 2017 & 2023 - WINE SPECTATOR

IN RECOGNITION FOR PRODUCING ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST WINES

FIRST DROP MOTHER'S MILK 2021, BAROSSA SHIRAZ

TOP 100 WINES OF THE YEAR + TOP 100 WINES OF AUSTRALIA - JAMES SUCKLING

FIRST DROP THE CREAM 2018, BAROSSA SHIRAZ | 98 Points

"This strikes at the pinnacle of bold Barossa shiraz at First Drop. The nose has deeply savory aromas with purple olives, iodine, coal smoke, rust and essence of dark plum, blueberry and blackberry. Some violet-like florals, too. The palate is so rich and layered with a stunning build of seamless, layered tannins that carry dense blueberry and blackberry flavors. So rich, so ripe and so smoothly resolved and drinkable. A blend of 50% Seppeltsfield, 33% Ebenezer and 17% Greenock. Drink or hold". Nick Stock,

TOP 100 VALUE WINES 2021 - JAMES SUCKLING

THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW THAT OUR FLASHIP WINE HAS MADE THE LIST.

FIRST DROP THE CREAM 2020, BAROSSA SHIRAZ | 94 Points

"This has plenty of intense, rich blackberries and dark plums, as well as some earthy notes, violet-like florals and blueberries. Dark spices, too. The palate has plush and richly fruited style with some handy depth to the tannins, which carry bold flavours. Fine yet rich tannins here. This is such a good all-round Barossa Shiraz. Drink or hold. Screw cap". Nick Stock,

5 RED STAR WINERY - HALLIDAY WINE COMPANION | 8 WINES RECEIVING 91 POINTS OR MORE

FIRST DROP COLD SWEAT 2016, CRANEFORD SYRAH | 96 Points

"Very fine, with detailed tannins that coat the mouth, corral the fruit and coax the saliva, serving as the wine's opus. Otherwise, black and blue fruits, five-spice, mocha and intensely lifted florals that serve as the regional postcode. A polished sheath. Thoroughly delicious." James Halliday, 2021 Halliday Wine Companion

TOP WINERIES OF 2022 - HUON HOOKE, THE REAL REVIEW

FIRST DROP THE CREAM 2016, BAROSSA SHIRAZ | RANKED #9 OF 139 FOR BAROSSA SHIRAZ | 96 Points

"It's opaque, impenetrable purple. Dark plums and blackberries restrained by quality oak. Supple and textured. Latent power sits comfortably in a mix of dark-roasted coffee beans and graphite. It's a delicious Shiraz, beautifully put together."

Halliday



HALLIDAY RATING
96
POINTS

2019 'THE CREAM' BAROSSA SHIRAZ

Deep crimson. Opulent and powerful with intense dark plum, black cherry and blackberry fruits, layers of fruitcake spice, 'Old Jamaican' chocolate, licorice, ironstone and turned earth. Plush, pure and humming with latent power, superfine tannins providing the framework. It could come from no where else but the Barossa. A cracker.

HALLIDAY RATING
96
POINTS

2016 'COLD SWEAT' CRANFORD SYRAH

Very fine, with detailed tannins that coat the mouth, corral the fruit and coax the saliva, serving as the wine's opus. Otherwise, black and blue fruits, five-spice, mocha and intensely lifted florals that serve as the regional postcode. A polished sheath. Thoroughly delicious.

HALLIDAY RATING
94
POINTS

2019 'FAT OF THE LAND' EBENEZER SHIRAZ

Single-vineyard shiraz from Ebenezer in the north of the Barossa Valley. Deep crimson in the glass with compressed blackberry and black cherry fruits. Pure and powerful in cedary oak and hints of Christmas cake spice, licorice, dark chocolate, tobacco leaf and turned earth. Big, bold and brooding with impressive horsepower and fruit heft.

HALLIDAY RATING
94
POINTS

2020 '2%' BAROSSA SHIRAZ

A splash (hence the 'two percent') of muscadelle backs its way into this red, which is predominantly built from Ebenezer, Seppeltsfield and Greenock shiraz. It's not a unique concept but it lends an exotic, floral edge to the proceedings. There is a deep, spicy resonance that acts as a base for the rich, ripe plum and blackberry fruits. Licorice-like and earthy, rich and opulent, there is plenty of concentration in display with compact sandy tannins and a spicy cassis tide of the finish.

HALLIDAY RATING
94
POINTS

2021 'MOTHER'S MILK' BAROSSA SHIRAZ

2021 was a fine vintage in the Barossa. There is no doubt that this wine will improve but damn it's delicious now. Deep plum and cherry fruits, plenty of spicy depth with hints of licorice, dark chocolate and earth. It's plush yet has crunch and cadence as it races off with memories of maraschino cherries, spice and roasting meats.

HALLIDAY RATING
93
POINTS

2021 'THE MATADOR' BAROSSA GRENACHE

There is a lighter, almost pinot-esque aspect to the colour in the glass. Aromas of satsuma plum, mulberry and boysenberry fruits are underscored with hints of gingerbread, cola, souk-like spice and floral notes galore. Red fruited and juicy on the palate with a medium-weighted line, fine casual tannins and an airy, spicy trail of plummy fruit.

HALLIDAY RATING
92
POINTS

2019 'MOTHER'S RUIN' MCLAREN VALE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Cabernet sauvignon from the Willunga foothills. Shows a deep crimson hue and lifted aromas of bright blackcurrant and blackberry fruits along with hints of baking spices, licorice, blackcurrant jubes, dried herbs, sarsaparilla, cloves, mint and pipe tobacco. Pure black fruit on the palate segues to a savoury palate shape with a nice cadence, tight, fine tannins and a herb-flecked blackcurrant pastille exit.

HALLIDAY RATING
92
POINTS

2022 'NACIONAL' MCLAREN VALE TOURIGA NACIONAL

Sleek, glossy and featuring a breezy sense of drinkability, it is little wonder that Portuguese grape varieties are winning us over. Deeply coloured with a plush dark plum and blueberry fruit base, plenty of earthy, spicy notes and a floral flick of the tail, the tannins are relatively gentle and powdery, retreating back into the fruit and the cadence is bright. Zesty yet fruit-driven and good drinking.

HALLIDAY RATING
92
POINTS

2022 'MODERNO' ADELAIDE HILLS BARBERA

From the shock of purple swirling around in the glass, you just know this is going to be a slurpy little number. It's all blueberry and cranberry fruit with citrus blossom top notes, Medina spices, dried citrus rind and dried herbal undertones. Supple and textured with a gypsum-dust tannin cloud, a twang of morello cherry at the backend and some nice sapid acidity getting the saliva glands working overtime. It makes for delicious, sprightly drinking.

HALLIDAY RATING
92
POINTS

2022 'REAL TIME' ADELAIDE HILLS CHARDONNAY

Chardonnay sourced from 350m elevation at Gumeracha in the Adelaide Hills; whole-bunch pressed and fermented in French oak puncheons (20% new). Pale straw with characters of crunchy green apple, nectarine and juicy peach with hints of cream wafer biscuits, lemon curd, soft spice, mango pudding, vanilla and creamy oak. Plenty of tight Hills focus on display with a driving mineral line and a finish that shows good sustain and spicy apple and peach fruit at its core.



2018 'THE CREAM' BAROSSA SHIRAZ

This strikes at the pinnacle of bold Barossa shiraz at First Drop. The nose has deeply savory aromas with purple olives, iodine, coal smoke, rust and essence of dark plum, blueberry and blackberry. Some violet-like florals, too. The palate is so rich and layered with a stunning build of seamless, layered tannins that carry dense blueberry and blackberry flavors. So rich, so ripe and so smoothly resolved and drinkable.



2018 'FAT OF THE LAND' EBENEZER SHIRAZ

This is from hearty Barossa soil, offering rich blackberries, blueberries and licorice, as well as sarsaparilla and a coal smoke. The palate is saturated with ripe dark plums and blackberries and smooth tannins stack up nicely, delivering such intensity of flesh and flavor into the long, fresh finish.



2018 'FAT OF THE LAND' SEPELLTSFIELD SHIRAZ

This has attractive blueberry and cassis aromas with some violets and cedar, as well as dark stones and licorice. The palate has an essence-like depth of blueberry flavor with super ripe and plush, soft tannins holding the finish long



2020 'COLD SWEAT' MOCULTA SYRAH

The finest wine of this 'Cold Sweat' suite. Full-bodied, to be sure. The oak, still unresolved but nicely nestled. The aromas, floral, lifted and palpably alive. Lilacs, tea-smoked duck, hoisin, cloves and blueberries. Complex. The finish is drawn taut by a string of acidity, while shuffling across a stacked tannic deck.



2020 '2%' BAROSSA SHIRAZ

Lots of blackberries, grilled meat, and hints of mint. Complete. Full-bodied with creamy tannins and a long and flavorful finish. Drinkable but even better in two or three years.



2021 'MODERNO' ADELAIDE HILLS BARBERA

A barbera with plenty of dark fruits, orange peel and other citrus fruit. Medium body. Fruity and juicy but the underlying acidity keeps it varietal and fresh. Says drink me!



2021 'MOTHER'S MILK' BAROSSA SHIRAZ

Aromas of black fruit, pepper, dark licorice and overturned earth. Medium- to full-bodied with creamy texture and fine tannins. It has a savory fruit character with some salinity to it.



2019 'MOTHER'S RUIN' MCLAREN VALE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Here's a ripe, savory and minty McLaren Vale cabernet. Surprising freshness and vitality in spite of the bold and full personality of the wine. Excellent integration of healthy tannins, bright acidity and a touch of minerality at the long finish.



2018 'MINCHIA' ADELAIDE HILLS MONTEPULCIANO

Dark berries with intense cloves and other spices, with a coffee liqueur and dark chocolate undertone. It's full-bodied and chewy with a pretty full-throttled nature, but I really like it.



2022 'VIVO' ADELAIDE HILLS ARNEIS

Tastes like arneis with candied lemons and limes with some steel and stone undertones. Medium body. Really takes off at the finish. So much energy.



FIRST DROP
- WINES -

THE CREAM

2018 BAROSSA SHIRAZ

"This strikes at the pinnacle of bold Barossa shiraz at First Drop. The nose has deeply savory aromas with purple olives, iodine, coal smoke, rust and essence of dark plum, blueberry and blackberry. Some violet-like florals, too. The palate is so rich and layered with a stunning build of seamless, layered tannins that carry dense blueberry and blackberry flavors.

So rich, so ripe and so smoothly resolved and drinkable."

James Suckling



JAMESSUCKLING.COM 

TOP 100 VALUE WINES

3 YEARS IN A ROW

**MOTHER'S
MILK**

TOP VALUE WINES 2019

2018 MOTHER'S MILK BAROSSA SHIRAZ # 91

TOP VALUE WINES 2020

2019 MOTHER'S MILK BAROSSA SHIRAZ #36

TOP VALUE WINES 2021

2020 MOTHER'S MILK BAROSSA SHIRAZ #29



Wine Spectator

92
POINTS

2018 'THE CREAM' BAROSSA SHIRAZ

TConcentrated, with velvety black cherry and raspberry flavors that are juicy and vibrant at the core, joined by sandalwood, nutmeg and milk chocolate aromas and a touch of cedar. Packs generous lingering spices, including star anise and clove.

92
POINTS

2018 'FAT OF THE LAND' SEPELTSFIELD SHIRAZ

TOffers a core of wild berry preserves, cigar box spiciness, cedar aromas and fruit flavors of açai, currant and blackberry. Boasts bittersweet chocolate and an edge of fresh-clipped laurel bay leaf, sage and rosemary herbs, which make for a complex, aromatic mix on a plush well-structured frame.

92
POINTS

2018 'FAT OF THE LAND' GREENOCK SHIRAZ

Delivers dark, dense smoke, mahogany and black walnut notes, with accents of plum, salted black licorice and a thread of minerality. Shows appealing hints of cream soda and toast on a firm, plump frame

93
POINTS

2018 'FAT OF THE LAND' EBENEZER SHIRAZ

Dense and concentrated, this red showcases clove, chai tea and bittersweet chocolate aromatics that mingle with a note of hot cast iron minerality, which adds an appealing high tone. Delivers dense, thick tannins and toasted herb flavors, which leave an appealing impression on the finish.

92
POINTS

2021 'MOTHER'S MILK' BAROSSA SHIRAZ

A compelling red on a juicy, fresh frame, with smooth, polished tannins and fresh pomegranate and maraschino cherry flavors at the core, showing details of milk chocolate, nutmeg and white peppercorn, plus an appealing hint of toasted herbs and fresh earth. Reveals tannins that firm up on the finish, which packs a spicy kick.

92
POINTS

2019 'MOTHER'S RUIN' MCLAREN VALE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Presents a lively, complex mix of red licorice, kirsch, oolong tea, oregano and dried cherry aromatics and flavors, with hints of lavender, palo santo and Kalamata olive that are wonderfully plush, juicy and generous. Shows soft, plush tannins.

Wine Spectator

WineSpectator.com

2021
'MOTHER'S MILK'
SHIRAZ

#38
IN 2023
TOP 100

ONE OF
THREE
WINES IN
TOP 100
TWO YEARS
IN A ROW

ONLY
AUSTRALIAN
WINE IN TOP 100

Wine Spectator

2021
MOTHER'S MILK
92 POINTS

SURE BETS
FOR \$40 OR LESS

"The Mother's Milk bottling is a slurpy
expression of syrah, an early drinker in a
fun, screw capped bottle that
consistently rates outstanding"

- Maryann Worobiec

SMART BUYS /
BEST VALUES

- May 31, 2022

TOP 100 WINES
OF 2022
#26

2020
MOTHER'S MILK
92 POINTS



FIRST DROP
- WINES -

MOTHER'S
MILK

FIRST DROP
- WINES -



HONOUR ROLL

Halliday

FIRST DROP HAS BEEN AWARDED ***** BY THE HALLIDAY WINE COMPANION since 2009

Every vintage of 'The Cream' Barossa Valley Shiraz has been awarded 93+ points

TOP VALUE WINES 2022 - 2021 'The Matador' Barossa Grenache 92Pts

TOP VALUE WINES 2022 - 2020 'Mother's Milk' Barossa Shiraz 94Pts



2020 - 2022



2022 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Medallion Winner

2020 Touriga Nacional



Wine Spectator

"First Drop is becoming a winery to be reckoned with."



WINE SPECTATOR'S
CRITICS'
CHOICE
AWARD

Every vintage of 'The Cream' Barossa Valley Shiraz has been awarded 92+ points.

New York Wine Experience Grand Tasting (the Super Bowl of wine)

'Mother's Milk' front cover of the Jan 31-Feb 28, 2018 issue.

CRITICS CHOICE AWARD 2016, 2017 & 2023 - MOTHER'S MILK

2020 Mother's Milk Shiraz - SMART BUYS/ BEST VALUES May, 2022

TOP 100 VALUE WINES OF 2020 - 2021 - 'Mother's Milk' Barossa Shiraz.

2020 Mother's Milk Shiraz - TOP 100 BEST WINES 2022 #26

2021 Mother's Milk Shiraz - TOP 100 BEST WINES 2023 #38

2013 - 2020 'Mother's Milk' Barossa Shiraz - Consistently 92 Pts

HOFEX 2013

"BEST OF SHOW"

Hong Kong
International Wine
Challenge 2013

JAMESSUCKLING.COM 

100 WINES OF 2020 - 2018 'The Cream' Barossa Valley Shiraz - 98 POINTS

TOP 100 VALUE WINES OF 2019- 2021 - 'Mother's Milk' Barossa Shiraz.

2017 'Vivo' Adelaide - 'Best Arneis outside of Italy.'

100 Best Australian Wines 2018:

2014 'Cold Sweat' Mocolta Syrah & 2015 'The Cream' Barossa Valley Shiraz.



Australian Alternative Varieties Wine Show

'MODERNO' BARBERA - GOLD MEDAL (2022 & 2023 WINE SHOW)

'NACIONAL' TOURIGA NACIONAL - GOLD MEDAL (2021 WINE SHOW)



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