



Menagerie of the Barossa Grenache Shiraz Mataro 2023

Dandelion Vineyards

wish you were here...

The aristocratic blend of luxury, curiosity and whimsy...



Background

Dandelion Vineyards is a unique fusion of vineyards and vigneron. Our wines represent decades of experience, blending the fruit of our old vine gardens with the finest traditions of artisan winemaking.

Dandelion Vineyards are proven plantings that have stood the test of time. Our wish is to nurture the unique character of these vineyards and express their terroir in our wines.

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At the end of our old vine garden path there is a historic 'Menagerie' of three grape varieties, adjoining blocks of Grenache, Shiraz and Mataro off Seppeltsfield Road in the Barossa. After hand picking selected bunches of our Menagerie field blend in the fourth week of March our winemaker Elena Brooks let the whole bunches ferment together in open top fermenters with ambient or 'other people's' yeasts and hand plunging for 14 days, before basket pressing into old French Oak barriques, to then mature for a further 12 months in the same oak, before bottling with minimal winemaking artifact, to capture the essence of our vinous Menagerie of the Barossa.

This vintage of our Menagerie of the Barossa has a high level of natural acidity, and bone dry, it is ménage à trois that makes wine truly of its time and place, a wish come true and a looking glass, if you will, and although ready to drink immediately it will also reward cellaring and decanting.

Wish you were here...

Zar Brooks, *Typist & tba*,

Elena Brooks, *BSc (Oenology)*
Adelaide Winemaker

Tasting Notes

Colour

Dark-purple and bright and lustrous and beaming.

Nose

Crushed fresh blackberries and blackberry compote. Finely and freshly ground white pepper from your inherited pepper mill.

A selection of green and dried herbs from a just-weeded herb patch. Cocoa powder, schist, black olives very mildly cured, bay leaf. Meatiness and yet a confectionary element to the aromas.

Palate

An opulently inky texture and grip is the first striking feature of this red blend. Warm, dark fruits; earth mixed with plum skins and plum stone. The leafiness of mataro dries out the back palate whilst the grenache leads the fruity, berried, rustic luxury. And the shiraz takes you to a higher place. There's softness and roundness here, but also definition and delineation. A versatile red with any sort of company, no matter how odd or even.

Drink

Comforting in the Winter with a slowly stewed hare; or we dare you to lightly chill this wine in the warmer (but not hotter) months and drink it with a manly Ratatouille or an Aubergine Tagine.

Specifics

Composition: 62% Grenache, 21% Shiraz, 17% Mataro.

Alcohol 14.0%

Latitude 34°32'33" South

Longitude 138°53'25" East

Altitude 281 Feet = 86 Metres

Dandelion Vineyards

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