

2022 Jack West Single Origin Barossa Valley Grenache Shiraz Mataro

Over the past 20 years, fifth generation Barossan brothers John and James Lienert have transformed the family's Barossa Valley farm into a viticultural wonderland. The role of maker has fallen easily to James, as has grower to John. A symbiotic coupling of siblings sharing a simple approach to growing grapes and making wine that yields a bloody good drink!

"Owning the vineyard comes with certain privileges, including being able to snaffle the pick of the crop before John sells the rest to other winemakers. I want our wines to show purity of fruit, elegance and delicacy, with finely structured tannins and flavours. My aim is to retain all the more delicate flavours through varying winemaking techniques and subtle use of oak. "Less is more' is a simple mantra, but it captures how we believe we're best able to unlock the potential of the fruit we grow.

We harvest and destem our fruit in the vineyard, which returns organic matter to promote soil health whilst ensuring retention of pure, vibrant fruit character. Fermentation for each red variety is initiated in small 2 tonne fermenters using wild yeasts to promote elegant structure. The fermenting juice is kept at cool temperatures (18-22C) to capture the delicate florals in the wine. Manual punch downs 3-5 times per day combined with 2-3 pump overs over 10-12 days on skins enables gentle extraction of flavour, colour and tannin. The wine is pressed and transferred to new (10-15%) and seasoned 300 litre hogsheads for 18 months.

A blend of Grenache, Shiraz and Mataro (about a third of each), this is a beautifully poised mid weight wine showing true Barossa character. Vibrant red and purple hues radiate from the glass, with beautiful aromas of bright red fruits from the Grenache, raspberry and plum from the Shiraz, and beautiful savoury Mataro notes of petrichor and spice. Well balanced with great structure and length.

Reminds me of 10-year-old me drinking sarsaparilla watching dad plough up the paddocks ready for seeding."

James Lienert, Winemaker

