



HARE'S CHASE

2020 'LEPUS' SHIRAZ

Vintage Conditions

The 2020 growing season began well with reasonable winter rainfall, however spring and summer rainfall was significantly below average.

The 2019 calendar year rainfall was the lowest ever recorded for the Nuriootpa weather station. A cold windy flowering in November led to a hot dry December. A challenging growing season to say the least.

Bacchus came to the rescue in the new year and offered mild January temperatures and wonderful 21mm of rainfall in February. Yields varied from vineyard to vineyard, but most were well below average. However, on a positive note, the fruit quality and resulting wine were concentrated in both colour and flavour. We wish we had more volume to share.

Winemaking

Fruit is harvested in late March each year and the cooler autumn weather allowed the bunches to hang, resulting in evenness of ripening across each bunch. The fruit is processed at our Hare's Chase winery in small open top fermenters, incorporating approximately 40% whole berries. Fermentation is managed with twice daily pump-overs, with daily délestage during the peak of ferment to maximise extraction of colour, flavour and tannin. At the completion of fermentation, the wine was pressed with free-run and pressings combined and matured for 24 months in 30% new French and American oak hogsheads.

Vineyard Selection

The Lepus Shiraz is sourced from the northern edge of our estate adjacent to Jenke Road Marananga.

Tasting Evaluation

Colour: An impenetrable deep garnet with a crimson hue.

Aroma: Layered black and savoury fruit characters of black cherry, dark plum, blackberry, black olive and charcuterie with whole black pepper and five-spice.

Palate: Dark and brooding, rich and full, these black and savoury fruit characters cascade lithely across the palate with warmth, generosity and finesse.



Technical Notes

Winemaker	Matt Reynolds
Varietal	Shiraz
Region	Barossa Valley
Alcohol	14.8% alc/vol
pH	3.58
TA	6.4g/L
Bottled	24 March 2022

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

96 Points	Andrew Caillard MV, The Vintage Journal, 2023
95 Points	Mike Bennie, WBM 2024
95 Points	Ken Gargett, Wine Pilot, 2024
95 Points	Erin Larkin, Wine Advocate, 2023
94 Points	Jeni Port, Wine Pilot, 2024
94 Points	Dave Brookes, Halliday Wine Companion, 2023
92 Points	Campbell Mattinson, The Wine Front, 2024
GOLD	Mundus Vini Spring Tasting, 2023
GOLD	SAKURA Japan Women's Wine Awards, 2024

