



THE  
WILLOWS  
VINEYARD



## 2023 MATARO

*The Willows has been our home since 1845, when 'JG' Scholz first arrived in the Barossa. Seven generations on, we continue to farm our unique parcel of land in the Barossa.*

### Variety

100% Mataro  
Single block  
Light Pass Barossa Valley

### Vineyard

Planted in 1970 by 5<sup>th</sup> generation Dr. W.H 'Bert' Scholz. Our Mataro block grows on a gentle, east facing slope moving away from the North Para River. The block is predominantly red sandy loam over red clay with a vein of ironstone gravel.

### Vintage 2022/23

The 2023 vintage required patience. After a typical Barossa winter of average rainfall and temperatures, the arrival of Spring brought above average rainfall and record-breaking low temperatures. The cold, wet conditions led to significant delays in shoot growth and bud burst, with vintage pushed out 2-4 weeks later than usual. The entire growing season proved mild and temperate, resulting in a long slow ripening season with remarkable acid retention in the grapes.

The hallmark of 2023 is an abundance of intense aromatics, matched with a rich spectrum of flavours and fine natural acidity that extends across the board. All hallmarks of an exceptional vintage.

### Winemaking

Hand-picked on 13<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> April, fruit was divided into 2 batches for fermentation; 25% whole bunch and completely destemmed. The whole bunch portion adding floral, lifted aromatics while the destemmed portion shows more depth and pure fruit flavours. 10-12 days on skins with hand plunging for the destemmed portion and gentle pump overs for the whole bunch portion. Basket pressed to seasoned French Oak. Secondary fermentation in barrel before 8 months of maturation prior to bottling.

### Tasting Notes

Bright red fruits and violet florals on the nose, with savoury, earthy notes adding another layer. Vibrant fruit, clove spice and an even web of fine grain tannin on the palate. The savoury, gamey, smokey elements build in the glass, with bright fruit and fresh acid the perfect balancing partners.

ALC 14.0 %

Vegan Friendly

Winemaker: Jack Scholz