



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 5th 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 in 2022 of average rainfall and temperatures, the arrival of Spring brought above average rainfall and record-breaking low temperatures, which led to significant delays in shoot growth and bud burst. 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 13th and 19th 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.

"Sourced from a single block of light pass Mataro. Pure, ripe plum. Blueberry and red forest berry fruits held in the dust of exotic spice, liminal Mataro garrigue and notes of roasting meats. Floral tones abound too... violets, frangipani and something vaguely musky that I can't put my finger on. Impressive fruit purity and ripeness on the palate, packed with wild spice and dried citrus tones, tannins like little puffy clouds and a finish that has a distinct meaty facet. Me Gusta!"
Dave Brooks Halliday Wine Companion Aug 2024 – 95 points

Winner of 'Best Mataro' Barossa Wine show 2024

ALC 14.0 %
Vegan Friendly
Winemaker: Jack Scholz