



VINO VOLTA

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Vino Volta “Intimations of Immortality” Liqueur Verdelho

Winemaker: Garth Cliff and Kristen McGann

Grape(s): Verdelho

GI: Swan District, Western Australia

Site(s): A selection of sites across Swan Valley and Swan District

Vineyard notes: This wine was sourced from many vineyards over the years, predominantly of old-vine verdelho. Most recently it has been sourced from two Swan Valley vineyards of greater than 60 years. These vineyards are on loam. Verdelho is quite uptight in growth and an anti-roll wire allows the canopy to sprawl and offer some shade for the fruit.

Winemaking: Liqueur verdelho is a unique style of wine synonymous with the Swan District: this is not a liqueur in the modern sense of the word, but rather a fortified wine. In the most suitable vintages, parcels of fruit are left to ripen to their best potential and then dry out on the vine. They soak and ferment on skins before being fortified with neutral spirit and pressing off, arresting the fermentation with a reasonable amount of residual sugar. Then the long aging process begins. The base wines mature in a warm cellar in old barriques and hogsheads, slowly concentrating, oxidizing, and gaining the characters that present in this wine. Base wines date back to 1957, with an average age in excess of 15 years for this bottling.

Closure: Vinoseal (glass) **ABV:** 19%

LEGEND tasting notes: Raisined and luscious fruit character that is still somehow bright: spiked and desiccated pineapple, orange marmalade, and rancio quandong (a red native peach) all maintain their acidity. Mocha, toasted bunya bunya (an Australian pine nut) and chicory come through on the palate, with sweetness up front that gives way to a drying and smoky finish. One of Australia's (and the world's) great, unique wines.

Label: Designed by Anitra Stene and Garth Cliff, most of Vino Volta's labels are based on the same scene: the vineyards below the Darling Scarp with the Swan River winding its way through. The Noongar people believed the Swan River was created by the Wagyl, a Rainbow Serpent. Different wines have different color variants and interpretation of the same scene.

Production size: 180 bottles (!!)