



MÉRITE

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MÉRITE 2021 Dry Rosé

Winemaker: Mike Kloak & Colleen Miller

Grape(s): Merlot

GI: Wratttonbully (Limestone Coast, South Australia)

Site(s): Estate vineyards in the Joanna region of Wratttonbully

Vintage notes: It was a near perfect vintage. Yields were higher than normal, but with the quality of a smaller yield. Every berry in the bunch set and that's unusual. When this was followed with a little to no rainfall and no heat events for the rest of the season, it meant that: those berries remained very small so flavours were not diluted; no damaged berries so all in great condition; the grapes ripened slowly so that flavours developed before sugar levels increased. The final result was lots of small red berries with excellent flavours and tannins, even though it was a larger crop size in the district than normal. Seriously, a vintage to watch in the Limestone Coast

Vineyard notes: This wine is made from five different merlot clones, planted both on own roots and low-vigour rootstock (rootstock is not used to protect against phylloxera, which isn't present in Wratttonbully, but rather to minimize frost risk and lower yields). Four of the clones are from France, planted in 2006, and represent a style that can be harvested at lower baumé for lower alcohol. Varied top soils, including the terra rossa red, silty clays made famous by neighboring Coonawarra, are over a limestone bedrock. The vineyard sits 110m above sea level, making it the highest planting in Wratttonbully.

Winemaking: Harvested early specifically for rosé production. Grapes went through an optical berry sorter. Whole berry fermentation with minimal skin contact. All stainless steel. Lightly fined with a vegetable fining agent. Vegan friendly.

Closure: Stelvin **ABV:** 13.3%

LEGEND tasting notes: A dry rosé that combines easy drinkability with the complexity and interest of the great merlot vines that MÉRITE has cultivated. On the nose, ruby red grapefruit, blood orange dried lemon myrtle, rhubarb, and strawberry gum. The palate is fresh and vibrant, with excellent purity of just-ripe fruit. A slightly salty, spicy finish begs for another sip. Perfect for drinking alone or as an accompaniment to all types of food.

Production size: 1000 dozen