



## MURDOCH HILL

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## Murdoch Hill 2019 'Red Blend'

**Winemaker:** Michael Downer

**Grape(s):** 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Shiraz

**GI:** Adelaide Hills (Mount Lofty Ranges, South Australia)

**Site(s):** Estate vineyard

**Vintage notes:** 2019 gave little but concentrated, clean fruit. With average spring rainfall and a very dry summer, several heat-waves near harvest resulted in early picking. Importantly, cold nights through out February and March retained brightness to the fruit profile and high natural acidity.

**Vineyard notes:** The Murdoch Hill vineyard is situated in the cool climate Adelaide Hills, near the township of Oakbank, in an undulating valley 420m in elevation. The cabernet sauvignon and shiraz selected for this wine are sourced from a predominately east-facing slope, producing fruit of more finesse by avoiding the harsh afternoon sun. The soil structure is predominately sandy loam over medium clay subsoils, with varying levels of ironstone, quartz and schist rock. These vines are cane pruned with vertical shoot positioning (VSP) and extensive shoot thinning, canopy trimming and bunch thinning to control the yield.

**Winemaking:** Whole bunches were hand-harvested and destemmed into open fermenters. A delicate approach during fermentation with pump overs and hand plunging employed to give gentle extraction of color, flavor, and tannins. Extended maceration on skins for 2-4 weeks. The wine was matured in older French barriques for 10 months before bottling without any fining or filtration.

**Closure:** Stelvin

**ABV:** 13.5%

**LEGEND tasting notes:** Bright, supple, and varietally correct, this wine delivers all the pleasure and versatility you could want in an early-drinking Bordeaux/Rhône blend. Red and blue fruited, with flavors of quandong (a red native peach), red currant, blueberry, and plum. The savory notes are persistent and playful, of black pepper and strawberry acacia. Easy but complex.