



## MURDOCH HILL

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## Murdoch Hill 2021 'Vis-à-Vis' Cabernet Franc

**Winemaker:** Michael Downer

**Grape(s):** Cabernet Franc

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

**Site(s):** Estate Vineyard in Oakbank

**Vintage notes:** The 2021 vintage has been celebrated after a more difficult 2020 in the Hills. Some early season rain set up the vintage for even flowering. Temperatures never spiked, allowing for a slow, even, long growing season that is being recognized as one of the best in recent memory for quantity and quality.

**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 soil structure is predominately sandy loam over medium clay subsoil's, with varying levels of ironstone, quartz and schist rock. These vines are cane pruned with vertical shoot positioning (VSP) with extensive shoot thinning, canopy trimming and bunch thinning to control the yield.

**Winemaking:** Hand picked. Small batch open fermenters with wild, spontaneous ferments. 100% destemmed, then racked into mostly older (10% new) French barriques. Aged for 10 months.

**Closure:** Stelvin

**ABV:** 12.5%

**Legend tasting notes:** Aromas of red and purple fruit – red cherry, plum, currant, and lilly pilly (a tart, native berry) – alongside savory elements of salt bush, violets, green pepper, smoked cedar, crushed leaves, and dark chocolate. The palate is supple and long, with great length, subtlety, and complexity.

**Scores:** 93 Points (The Wine Front), 93 Points (Suckling)