



MOORILLA

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Moorilla 2017 Muse Extra Brut

Winemaker: Conor Van Der Reest

Grape(s): 83% Chardonnay, 17% Pinot Noir

GI: Tasmania

Site(s): St Matthias Vineyard

Vintage notes: Vintage in 2017 was typical of Tasmanian weather: cool and dry; then warm and humid, and then cold and dry. It was also the longest vintage in ten years, as it was a quite cool year overall, so fruit intensity and acid profiles are distinctive.

Vineyard notes: The St Matthias vineyard sits on the rising west bank of Kanamaluka / River Tamar, fifteen kilometres north of Launceston in northern Tasmania. With ancient volcanic and newer clay soils, St Matthias is much more fertile than Moorilla's southern vineyard. Starting at ten metres above sea level, there are deeper and siltier clays. Moving west up the slope and rising to a height of 115 metres, the clay loam soils make way for granite stone and outcrops. The site's slope and proximity to the water provides natural frost protection. Facing east, the full sun on the west bank is tempered by near constant cool breezes, helping to ensure long and cool ripening conditions and limit the spread of botrytis, the noble rot, which is prevalent in Tasmania. These are stellar conditions for producing fruit-driven and acid-balanced wines.

Winemaking: Hand-picked and native yeast primary ferment. Base wines are fermented 50% in old puncheons. Dosage comes from a solera barrel that's a mix of wines going back about 10 years, with the 2017 having 5.5g/L dosage. 4 years on less. The intention with the Extra Brut is targeted towards being an aperitif in style—rather than rich and broad. By retaining freshness of fruit and acidity in the base wines, they then use extended lees contact to complement and enrich the wine. Reductive handling and no malolactic fermentation are crucial to achieving this balance.

Closure: Ganau Gallura cork

ABV: 11.7%

LEGEND tasting notes: Another stunner of a sparkling from Moorilla, the 2017 Extra Brut starts strong, with an abundant, clean, stonefruit-driven nose (with suggestions of brioche, biscuits and finger lime). The palate structure has a generous, soft mousse and great length—carrying loads of juicy citrus, apple (skin, blossom) and a cucumber-and-river mint freshness. Acidity is tart, bright, and very moreish.

Production size: 657 dozen