



MÉRITE

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MÉRITE 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon

Winemaker: Mike Kloak and Colleen Miller

Grape(s): Cabernet Sauvignon

GI: Wrattenbully (Limestone Coast, South Australia)

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

Vintage notes: 2018 was a vintage that started with nice spring rains. These are important for recharging the vines with nutrients in rainfall that are not present in irrigated water - the vines love it. There was a frost event in late spring on November 4 that affected some sites and some varieties more than others, but the cabernet sauvignon was largely unaffected. Yields were moderate and a dry ripening period gave no disease pressure.

Vineyard notes: Varied top soils, including the terra rossa red, silty clays made famous by neighboring Coonawarra, are over a limestone bedrock and system of caves. The vineyard sits 110m above sea level, making it the highest planting in Wrattenbully.

Winemaking: Sunrise harvest. Grapes were crushed, destemmed, and fermented in small-batch stainless steel tanks. After 7 days, the ferments were drained, pressed, and racked into oak. Maturation in French and Hungarian oak, 20% new. Egg white fined.

Closure: Stelvin

ABV: 14.8%

LEGEND tasting notes: A regal wine, balancing firmness and juiciness to great appeal. Aromas of dusty cedar, tobacco, Davidson plum (a tart, purple native plum), and black currant. The palate adds complexity with river mint, cinnamon myrtle, and plump but structured blue and black fruit. This wine is defined by length, structure, and balance: an affordable wine for serious cabernet sauvignon drinkers.

Production size: 600 dozen