

THE WILD PIXIE



Shiraz 2018

McLaren Vale, Shiraz (93%) Roussanne (7%)

The Name

In 2006, Chester added a small parcel of Roussanne to The Stump Jump White. A wine journalist described him as a ‘wild pixie’ for concocting such a crazy blend. Taking that as a compliment, Chester went on to make an even more audacious blend with Roussanne, this time combining it with Shiraz.

The Vintage

Quite a wet winter with July, August and September being way above average in rainfall. October, November and December were a little below average and January, February and March were more or less bone dry. Temperatures were mild until late January, so vines seemed to be delayed and harvest appeared like it was again going to be late. However, a few hot days and nights brought the ripening forward with slight sacrifice of acidity. The above average temperatures of February and March and the dryness made everything ripen relatively quickly. Yields appeared on the lighter side, because the heat and dry conditions did reduce them significantly, however they were still quite respectable across all varieties.

The Winemaking

Small batches of grapes are gently crushed and then transferred to open fermenters, where the Roussanne skins and Shiraz are co-fermented. Foot treading is undertaken two thirds of the way through fermentation, the wine is basket pressed and transferred to old French oak to complete fermentation and mature. The barrel ferments are aged on lees, there is no racking until final blending and no fining or filtration.

The Characteristics

A bright and lifted nose of red and black jubes and a whiff of white pepper spice. Characteristic black olive and dusty earth tones give a more savoury balance. The finer, persistent fruit tannins at the front of the palate flow generously to round out the mid palate to give great structure and a long lingering finish.



Harvest dates	12 Feb - 12 Apr	Alcohol	14.5%
Residual sugar	1.7 g/l	Titratable acid	7.1
pH	3.54	Oak maturation	12 months
Chief Winemaker	Chester Osborn	Senior Winemaker	Jack Walton