

# **WALTON 1946**

# 2021 GRENACHE

Planted in 1946, the Walton old block Grenache is a monument to the history of the Clare Valley. These dry-grown bush vines are planted in terra rossa soils allowing excellent drainage. The gently sloping block with westerly aspect and rows running east/west perfectly captures the sun's rays while avoiding the harsh summer sun.

#### **PLACE**

33°59'46.6"S 138°40'12.6"E

Single Vineyard - Walton Altitude - 380m Soil - Red brown earth over limestone Planted in 1946 in the famed sub-region of Watervale, Clare Valley Our grapes are grown on Ngadjuri country.

#### **VINTAGE CONDITIONS**

A dry cool autumn in 2021 lead into good winter rains. Above average spring showers rainfall gave way to a very cool, dry summer. These conditions slowed the grapes ripening, resulting in an abundance of flavour and excellent natural acid. Overall conditions were reminiscent of those seen a decade ago, ideal for the variety, making it a rare vintage where quantity is generous, and quality exceptional.

# **WINEMAKING**

Hand-picked, the grapes were carefully transported to the winery in half tonne bins where they were sorted and destemmed prior to fermentation in small, shallow open vats. Hand plunged and basket pressed with minimal intervention allowed the vineyard to fully express itself. The wine was then matured in large 500-litre, seasoned, French oak "Puncheons" for 18 months.

#### **COLOUR**

Deep purple red with a bright crimson hue.

#### **NOSE**

Intense and perfumed blend of cranberry, black cherries and plums. Dried herbs and strawberry notes add to this dazzling array of aromas.

#### **PALATE**

Bright and rich, this full-bodied wine envelopes the palate. Flavours of blood plums, raspberries and black mulberries are underpinned by subtle dark spices that slowly materialize. The long fresh finish is a fine balance between these flavours intertwined perfectly with a touch of french oak, integrated soft and round tannins, and a plush texture that lifts and lingers.

# **AWARDS**





#### **TECHNICAL**

Alcohol: 14.0% Acidity: 6.0 g/L

### **WINEMAKER**

Peter Warr Last Tasted: 17th Nov 2023

# **CELLARING**

Now until 2035