

WOODSTOCK



Pilot's View Shiraz McLaren Vale 2022

BACKGROUND

Flying Spitfires during WWII, Douglas Collett A.M was privileged to a pilot's eye-view of the vineyards of Europe. Returning home, Doug saw the future for an Australian table wine industry, moving on from fortified styles. Equipped with animation, initiative and perseverance, Doug planted many vineyards and made wines in many regions. He loved the natural beauty and robust flavours of McLaren Vale, acquiring Woodstock Estate in 1973. Doug's own flight helmet represents the vision and passion of this inspirational man whose philosophy was, "The glass is always half full, so let's fill it up!"

WINEMAKING

The Pilot's View Shiraz is crafted from our premium vineyards at Woodstock, mainly the Creek Block Shiraz which has been the backbone of this wine for over a decade, along with select parcels from our Old Vine Block known as 'The Stocks', planted in 1905. Shiraz is harvested when the berries begin to dimple, showing that tannin and flavour ripeness have been reached. We also taste the grapes daily, looking for tannin ripeness which will help determine the picking date. The grapes are then crushed and fermented on skins for around five days before being pressed and transferred to oak hogsheads to complete fermentation. The wine is matured for 18 to 24 months in a mix of new and seasoned French and American oak hogsheads. This time in barrel softens the tannins and builds balanced oak character, creating the smooth, silky finish that defines the style.

TASTING NOTES

This wine exhibits distinctive and perfumed dark and red fruit aromas. The palate is luscious with ripe fruit and layers of soft tannin. Balanced acidity and subtle oak provide texture and a long smooth finish. Flavours will continue to develop and evolve with careful cellaring. Serve with your favourite cut of steak, rested off the BBQ, served with salads and enjoyed with family, friends and laughter.

FROM THE WINEMAKER

'The Pilots View Shiraz has always been a crowd pleaser at the Woodstock cellar door and beyond. Generously flavoured with ripe fruit and balanced good quality oak, it is a tribute to my grandfather and the way he made wine since the 1950s. The 2022 vintage marks a generational shift, my first with full winemaking control and the debut of our new Heritage Range label. I've aimed to retain the bold character that defines Pilot's View, while adding a touch more softness to the palate and a lift of youthful aromatics. I hope you enjoy the wine and the subtle influence of a new generation. Cheers'. Peter Collett



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