

CHARLES MELTON

FINE BAROSSA RED WINES



2022 La Belle Mere

VINTAGE

A return towards yield normalcy, but not quite there yet, with 2022 vintage in the Barossa being around 20% down in 2021. Personally, we fared a little better, but from a winemaking point of view, never mind the width, feel the quality!! Superbly spaced rain events, all continuing through Spring, with nary a hint of heat. Bright sunny, yet mild days presented one of the most balanced and unhurried vintages for some time.

STYLE

Deepish colour, not black, but lovely ruby tints. Sweet musk aromatic to the fore but balanced by some nice black fruits, even a touch of tapenade, with sweet perfume the key character. Plush attack on to the palate. Plump sweet Grenache flavours following right through the structure. A gentle lick of fine tannins to round out the end.

VINIFICATION

Almost exclusively estate grown vines from our Krondorf, Rowland Flat and Lyndoch blocks contribute the grapes for the 2022 La Belle Mere. A small percentage of the ferment underwent whole bunch fermentation with the wine being pressed into 5% new and 95% second fill barriques post ferment to mature on lees with regular battonage for 28 months. The wine was naturally settled prior to bottling without finings.

TECHNICAL

Grenache 46%
Shiraz 45%
Riesling 5%
Mataro 4%

Alc: 14.5%
PH: 3.23 g/L
TA: 7.2g/L

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WINEMAKER