

2022 Izway Angelo Aglianico

About Angelo

Over the years we have been on the hunt for another red varietal that could match the quality of Mataro, Grenache and Shiraz in the Barossa Valley and settled on planting Aglianico from Basilicata, Italy. The grape has probably exceeded our expectations, and the late ripening at lower alcohol and high natural acid has given us a strong point of difference from the other wines we make.

Angelo is a great mate of mine, a gentleman with a charming amount of crazy. His family has been concreting for generations, and he completed all the work at the winery and cellar door. It seemed appropriate that we named this Aglianico after my favourite Italian/Aussie, Angelo.

The Vintage

The 2021/2022 growing season continued our run of cool vintages, with bountiful spring rain and no days recorded above 37 degrees. These cool harvests allow us to create pure, energetic, balanced wines and give us the flexibility in the winery to schedule perfect picking dates and gentle, controlled maceration. There was one isolated but significant hailstorm that affected a narrow band of the Barossa on the 28th of October, which unfortunately smashed out home vineyard, as well as the Harold Vineyard in Eden Valley. All other sites remained unaffected, and the season delivered slightly below average yields, healthy canopies and perfectly ripe bunches. While I believe 2021 will be considered a higher quality harvest, the wines of 2022 are still exceptional in their own right, and will equally drink beautifully young and age with poise, balance and refinement.

The Wine

Savoury spice and leather flow into red cherry and orange rind, with hints of clove and cinnamon. The hallmark tannin and acid profile of Aglianico is present, but with a depth and richness of texture which is coating and powerful, yet elegant, satiating, and moreish. It has all the elements of a wine that will continue to fascinate for at least the next decade.

The Vineyard

The Aglianico vineyard is located at the most North Western corner of the Barossa Valley, with an east facing aspect and a significant gradient that facilitates shading from the hot afternoon summer sun. The soil is scattered with chunks of ironstone, providing a perfect site for grape vines.

Sub Appellation:KoonungaPlanted:2009Elevation:300m

Soil: Red clay with chunky ironstone, and scattered gravel

Craig Isbel Winemaker