



ROLF BINDER

BAROSSA VALLEY



"I was ecstatic when offered a small crop of Montepulciano from an Eden Valley grower back in 2012 as it gave me the opportunity to work with a different varietal for the first time & it's proved to be one that I love!"

~ Rolf Binder

2018 Montepulciano Eden Valley

Winemakers: Rolf Binder & Harry Mantzarapis

Rolf Binder, formerly known as Veritas, was established in the heart of the Barossa Valley in 1955 by Rolf Heinrich Binder. The winery tradition is now continued by the second generation of Binders, Rolf and Christa, as brother and sister winemakers. For more than 25 years, the siblings have produced a range of highly acclaimed wines from their estate and other premium Barossa vineyards.

THE VINEYARDS:

A varietal with origin being the Abruzzo region of east-central Italy, the fruit for this fourth release Montepulciano was sourced from a very special Eden Valley vineyard where this varietal has been grafted to 25+ year old Riesling vines. The yield was approx. 2.5 tonnes/acre with about a third of the crop dropped at veraison in order to maximise concentration of flavour in the vineyard. Grapes were harvested later than ever before, in May, as this region, with its cool nights and high elevation, is perfect for slow ripening and intense fruit flavours.

THE VINTAGE:

After reasonable winter and spring rainfall, soil moisture was adequate during the 2018 growing season and the Barossa's vineyards were exhibiting healthy canopies heading into summer. Jan and Feb were warm and dry, with very warm temperatures in Feb slowing down the pace of ripening, allowing good flavour to develop more slowly. The warm, dry Summer extended throughout the harvest season until the end of April. Overall yields were 10-20% down, but quality high.

THE WINEMAKING:

With this release, the winemaker's intent was to capture more of the typical essence of the Tuscan style Montepulciano wines. The wine was matured for 10 months in 3 year old barrels - 80% French oak (quintessence) and 20% American. This release was bottled earlier than previous releases for a slightly lighter, more crunchy style.

ANALYSIS: Alc. Vol 14.5%, Acidity 6.77 g/l, pH 3.41

THE PROFILE:

Bright ruby/purple colour with cherry, blackberry fruit and pepper on the nose. A fuller-bodied, more 'Barossa style' than one would experience in Italy, yet still quite vibrant and juicy. The palate shows hints of plum and spice with chalky tannins and firm, dry finish.

CELLARING:

Best when consumed as a younger wine but can be enjoyed over the next 3-5 years.

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