



2020 Ashmead Family Reserve Field Blend

History

Produced exclusively from fruit on our Greenock vineyard, this is a Grenache blend, the likes of which has not been seen before at Elderton. 2020 marks one of the smallest vintages we have ever experienced due to a distinct lack of winter rain, high winds at flowering and early onset summer heat, all causing havoc in the vineyard. As a result of this, the 2020 wines are dark, rich and tannic and this wine is quite different to the Grenache blends we have made over the last 10 years. As such, we give you something that we think is pretty special - our Ashmead Family Reserve.

A wine to enjoy now, celebrating the Ashmead family's 40th year of making wine at Elderton, or cellar confidently for the medium term.

Vineyard Information

Estate grown on our Greenock vineyard, from select blocks of Grenache, Mataro, Carignan and Shiraz. The 1969 planted Grenache sits high on the western ridge, with the 1915 planted Carignan nearby. The Mataro is in slightly harder clay soils close at the northern end of the vineyard.

Winemakers' Comments

Every now and then we have an opportunity to make something truly exceptional, that sits outside of the normal expectations of a style we make. Our Family Reserve Field Blend is just this. In 2020 we had an extremely low cropping level, perhaps the lowest yields since a time in the late 50s, according to the memories of many Barossa winemakers. Owing to their similar ripening pattern and trusted partnering, our Greenock old vine Grenache and Mataro were coupled with slim pickings of Carignan. Hand harvested and co-fermented, with a cool open fermentation and regular plunging to extract supple yet vibrant tannins, whilst retaining as much fruit as possible. Once pressed, the wine was filled to old French oak for malolactic fermentation, where a fraction of old vine Shiraz aided to top the last barrel. We chose to bottle this wine young, preserving freshness and brightness, with a very present savoury tannin profile.

- Jules Ashmead & Brock Harrison

Style	Vibrant, earthy and super tasty!
Colour	Deep crimson
Aroma	Lifted musk and cherry ripe with attractive gamey notes
Palate	Punchy spice and notes of satsuma plum on the palate, with a rich vein of fresh ripe fruit, supported by powdery tannins providing great structure and length
Cellaring	Drink now or cellar confidently for the medium term



Ashmead Family Reserve Field Blend 2020

Grenache 62%, Mataro 33%, Carignan 3%, Shiraz 2%

Vineyard Source 100% Estate Grown, Greenock

Vine Age 13 -105 years

Picking date 12 - 17 March 2020

Oak Old French oak puncheons for 8 months

Alc/Vol 15.3%