

Paxton Grenache McLaren Vale Australia 2021

Selected by: Master Sommelier Evan Goldstein



Final Deductions

VINTAGE 2021

GRAPE Grenache/Blend

GEOGRAPHY Not Europe

COUNTRY Australia

LARGER REGION South Australia

SMALLER REGION Fleurieu

SUB REGION McLaren Vale

Rationale

Grenache is one of the best and most unappreciated red wine grapes—there, we said it. Grenache has many homes and faces.

It can make extraordinary single-varietal wines, as the rich examples of Australia, Spain, France, and the USA all demonstrate. Grenache also blends magnificently, as anyone who enjoys a well-balanced Rioja or great bottle of Châteauneuf-du-Pape, a GSM (Grenache-Shiraz-Mourvèdre) blend, can attest. Grenache also makes formidable rosé wines around the world, and one could argue that the great VDNs (vins doux naturels) coming from Banyuls, Rasteau, and Maury demonstrate Grenache's ability to yield a full-flavored and complex dessert wine. The dry still examples, which are by far the lion's share of what is on the market, are enjoyable wines that show jammy grape-forward with a touch of peppery, spicy, fleshy and creamy in texture with both red (primarily) and black fruit led by aromas and flavors of strawberry, cherries, black currants, and black raspberries.

Established in 1979, Paxton is a family-owned wine company. Founder and owner David Paxton is acknowledged as one of Australia's most highly respected viticulturists and leaders in biodynamics – a reputation built on managing and growing wine grapes of exceptional quality for over 30 years. The Paxton family have nurtured their own vineyards in McLaren Vale for three decades. Internationally recognized as one of Australia's leading wine regions, McLaren Vale is renowned for the production of super premium quality wines – particularly Grenache.

Sight

BRIGHTNESS Day Bright

CLARITY Clear

COLOR DEPTH Light

COLOR Ruby

RIM VARIATION Ruby
Stained Tears: Low

Structure

RESIDUAL SUGAR Dry

ACID Med+

ALCOHOL Med+

TANNIN Medium

TEXTURE Round / Smooth

FINISH Med+

COMPLEXITY Med+

Aroma & Taste

RED FRUIT Cranberry • Red Raspberry • Red / Sour Cherry • Strawberry *Condition: Fresh, Ripe*

BLACK FRUIT Black Raspberry • Blackberry *Condition: Fresh*

CITRUS FRUIT Mandarin • Orange *Condition: Fresh Part: Peel / Zest*

FLORAL Lavender • Jasmine *Condition: Fresh*

OTHER VEGETABLE Peppers (Red/Yellow) • Fennel / Anise • Rhubarb

HERBAL Basil • Mint / Eucalyptus • Garrique / Provence

OTHER SPICES Sassafras • Licorice (Red) • Chinese Five Spice

ORGANIC EARTH Turned Dirt / Potting Soil

INORGANIC EARTH Mineral / Rock • Chalk / Limestone

OAK AGING Yes *Oak Intensity: Low*

OAK INFLUENCE Neutral / Large Oak

OXIDATION/NUTTINESS Almond / Marzipan • Pistachio