



TURKEY
FLAT
VINEYARDS
BAROSSA VALLEY

BAROSSA VALLEY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA – TURKEY FLAT VINEYARDS

A hot and dry summer combined with low winter rainfall and reduced yields have created wines of exceptional colour and tannin depth during vintage 2013 in the Barossa Valley. Varieties suited to warmer climates have excelled.

Rainfall for the 2012 winter was a third down on the average for the Barossa. This combined with a very hot and dry summer caused the lowest sub-soil moistures seen since 2007. A cool start to the 2012 growing season effected bud development for the 2013 vintage and reduced flower number per vine. These factors inhibited yield potential and saw the Turkey Flat Estate vineyards yield down by an average of 40%.

The reduced yield in our vineyards proved to be a mixed blessing. Volumes have been dramatically reduced however the low yields have allowed the vines to stay in balance with the hot and dry conditions to produce an early vintage of good quality. Vintage started on the 7th of February with Shiraz for Rose, quickly followed by our white varieties on the 14th (Viognier and Roussanne) and 22nd (Marsanne). Shiraz for dry red had priority in the crusher over the following three weeks with the conditions bringing forward usual ripening for Shiraz by a month. March was dedicated to Grenache for Rose, followed by Cabernet Sauvignon, Grenache and Mataro for dry Red. We crushed the last of our Mataro on the 3rd of April, while our rack-dried Marsanne was pressed on the 10th of April. The conditions have been ideal for our Rose, with the Grenache destined for our Rose being concentrated in both flavour and colour. This has translated into a wine that is amongst our best. The whites are rich and aromatic. The shiraz is truly 'inky' in its appearance, leaving its mark on anything or anyone it has come in contact with. The true stars of the vintage however, are Grenache and Mataro, with great fruit and palate weight combining with deep colour and imposing tannin.

Vintage 2013 will be remembered for the arid heat and early start, however low yields will be the factor that define producers of quality.

