



FRANKLAND ESTATE



2020 FRANKLAND ESTATE SMITHCULLAM SYRAH

TASTING NOTE

Bright plum purple colour, lifted florals and spice, fresh raspberry and blackberry.

Sumptuous and deep with anise, hints of poached quince and plums. The core of plush fruit intermingles with the fine detailed tannin giving a rare combination of elegance, complexity, and freshness. Is drinking well now but will reward extended cellaring. This is like Isolation Ridge Syrah with all the volume turned up on aromatics, palate weight and plush fine detailed tannins without being heavy handed or over the top.

2020 VINTAGE

With 2020 being a very small cropping year due to the dryer season and a resulting 110 cases being made in total through very rigorous selection we again can be confident the strength and ability to perform in some of the dryer than normal years. This said temperatures stayed modest through the growing season providing a wine of good natural vibrancy and balance.

Considerable dedication to viticulture has in turn is allowing us to make the Syrah we are making today.

VINEYARD

Fruit for this wine was sourced from the original east west facing “Winery Block” planted on Isolation Ridge in 1988. The vineyard is planted on undulating northern and eastern facing slopes and has duplex soils of ironstone gravel and loam over a clay sub soil. The Isolation Ridge Vineyard is managed under organic certification (ACO certified organic since 2009) and this wine is only made in exceptional years when we find a parcel of fruit that looks worthy for SmithCullam.

VINIFICATION

This wine was fermented in small shallow open pot fermenters. Whole berries are used, and fermentation is initiated straight away, hand plunging is conducted to keep the ferment even and as gentle as possible, minimising extraction. Temperatures typically do not exceed 27C through the 10–15-day ferment. Some additional maturation on skins occurs until tannin integration and balance is seen. This wine was aged for 15 months in 3,500 litre French oak foudre. The small addition of Viognier (5%) and Mourvèdre add to the wine’s complexity.

Syrah 93.8%, Viognier 5%, Mourvèdre 1.2%

Drink 2021 – 2036

14.5% Alc