

CRFT Wines

2019 Mencía - The Schmidt Vineyard

CRFT Wines is a boutique family-owned & operated winery, vineyard & cellar door, run by winemakers Candice Helbig & Frewin Ries in the Piccadilly Valley, Adelaide Hills.

We are committed to crafting unique single site wines which are a true and honest reflection of place and time.



The Wine

Lifted and aromatic the nose shows blackcurrant, pomegranate and blackberry jam, with secondary characters of beetroot, chocolate bullets and leather polish. Tea leaf and dried prune add to the complexity. Super juicy palate bursting with plush concentrated red fruit and smooth supple tannins.

A beautiful wine to drink right now or watch it age and develop over the coming few years.

Ready to drink at release or cellar for up to 5 years (possibly beyond!).

Suggested serving temperature 16-17C

Alcohol - 13.5% alc/vol Sugar/GF - Dry RRP - \$31 Released - April 2020

The Winemaking

Harvested 5th March 2019, 1.5 Tonnes.

Hand-made by Candice and Frewin at their winery in Carey Gully.

100% Barossa Valley Mencía grapes, hand-picked.

Wild fermented in an open-top tank, gentle hand plunge only, 10 days on skins, then pressed to barrel for malolactic fermentation and maturation.

Matured for 9 months in 100% French oak, 25% 1yo old, 75% older oak.

Bottled December 2019, 104 dozen produced. Vegan friendly.

The Vineyard

The Schmidt family own and farm the Mencía vines at Vine Vale in the Barossa Valley. Organically farmed (uncertified) from 2018/2019 growing season.

Planted 2012 (half grafted, half planted on own roots)
Soil Deep sandy loam topsoil, over deep red clay subsoil.

Map -34.495745, 139.010397

Mencía - About the variety

Mencía (pronounced MEN-cee-ah or MEN-thee-ah) is a Spanish native grown mostly in the northwestern corner of Spain and if you enjoy Pinot Noir you should definitely give this a go!

The variety often shows lifted aromatics of red fruit, floral notes and earthy tones. It can be medium to full bodied and suits savoury red meat dishes, poultry or wild game, and vegetarian dishes such as mushroom risotto.

In Australia, there's just a tiny handful of plantings and producers, with the variety found in South Australia's McLaren Vale, Adelaide Hills and Barossa Valley as well as the Pyrenees Wine Region in Victoria and Orange in New South Wales. Australian Mencía will be an exciting variety to watch over the coming decades as our vines age and as we learn how to grow Mencía in our climate.

In 2019 our second planting of Mencía was established at the Rohrlach Vineyard in the Barossa Valley and we look forward to producing our second single vineyard Mencía in the future.