



PEPPER TREE

'STRANDLINES'

SINGLE VINEYARD

2017 Wrattobully Cabernet Shiraz

The name Strandlines comes from the ancient shorelines or dunes that mark the retreating ocean from what is now the Naracoorte Range in Wrattobully. These ancient dunes harbour the famed red 'Terra Rossa' topsoil over Gambier limestone. The secret of these soils lies in the near perfect drainage they provide, leading to small crops of wonderfully concentrated fruit.

An intensely concentrated nose of dark berry fruits, chocolate and spicy oak complexity. A serious full bodied blend of Cabernet and Shiraz, displaying ripe Cabernet flavours of cassis and blackberry integrated well with exotic spice and sweet mid palate fruit of Shiraz. A wine of great depth, intensity and structure.

Head Winemaker, Gwyn Olsen

VINTAGE

Good winter and spring rains were accompanied by cool spring weather which led to a late budburst. The soil moisture produced good early season growth but flowering and then veraison were both late following on from the late budburst. Ripening occurred in relatively cool conditions leading to the latest harvest for many years. Pinot Gris and Chardonnay were picked in late March with good acid balance and flavour. Merlot and Tempranillo followed in early April in ideal cool dry conditions and both varieties produced very good wines. Our top Cabernet blocks were picked by April 19th with good flavour ripeness and acidity. Intermittent cool rainy weather then set in for the last 10 days of April causing problems for most South Australian areas. The majority of our grapes were picked before the rain and early indications are for wines of excellent quality and balance.

VINEYARD

Wrattobully is located in the Limestone Coast wine zone. The prominent viticultural feature of the area is the series of ancient beach ridges and dunes which run roughly north-south through the area. These ridges are made up of soft crumbly limestone which weathers to produce the red and brown Terra Rossa clay loam soils so highly prized for grape growing. The ridges and dunes have elevations of up to 30m compared with the neighbouring regions to the south with a Terra Rossa 'high' of less than 5m. The extra elevation on the Wrattobully dunes produce the advantage of cold air drainage which reduces the risk of frost during the growing season.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

BLEND:	Cabernet Sauvignon (70%) Shiraz (30%)
BOTTLING DATE:	12/2018
BOTTLE NUMBER RANGE:	1 - 2620
PH:	3.46
TA:	6.1 g/l
ALC/VOL:	14.3%
STANDARD DRINKS:	8.5

APPELLATION/ GI

Wrattobully (South Australia) 100%

WINEMAKING

Picked when acid and flavour are ripe, this is then destemmed and crushed into static fermenters. Fermented for 10 days using selected yeast strain and then pressed off skins into French oak for 20 months maturation. Barrels are then selected, blended and prepared for bottling.



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Jolts of dark berried flavour and ropes of tannin. It's a ship of a wine, robust and strong, built for the long haul. Indeed for all its curranty fruit, smoky oak and peppercorn flavour it's not much fun now, it needs to be let loose in the future.

(Review by: Campbell Mattinson).