



# PEPPER TREE

## 'THE GRAVELS' SINGLE VINEYARD 2019 Wratonbully Shiraz

*Our best Shiraz is grown on our Gravels block in Wratonbully. Situated at the base of an ancient dune, this block has red soil mixed with ironstone gravel, over free draining Gambier Limestone. These tough well drained soils, provide tiny crops of intensely perfumed fruit.*

An opulent and aromatic wine, full bodied and powerfully concentrated with dark berry fruits and wonderfully exotic spice.

Head Winemaker, Gwyn Olsen

### VINTAGE

Despite some nail-biting brushes with frost, 2019 turned out to be an excellent vintage and produced arguably the best wines from the area since 2004.

Cool early season conditions led to low yields in Cabernet Sauvignon but all other varieties yielded well. Hot weather in January and February had marginal impact on our vineyard and by the time ripening was well underway in March, conditions had cooled considerably. This led to one of the longest ripening seasons for many years and the last fruit was harvested in May. The long 'hang time' led to fruit of great flavour and balance.

Some outstanding parcels of Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon were picked especially from our 21A Cabernet block. These wines have intense colour and flavour and the long slow ripening has produced very good integration and balance of tannins. Our first crops of Aglianico, Malbec and Barbera show great promise.

2019 reds are expected to be outstanding wines.

### APPELLATION / GI

Wratonbully (South Australia) 100%

### WINEMAKING

This block was thinned by hand and then hand picked. The grapes were then de-stemmed and chilled for three days before being inoculated for ferment in a static fermenter. Once dry, the resulting wine was pressed off skins and put to French oak puncheons to retain fruit integrity for 12 months. The individual barrels were then tasted and selected for blending and the wine prepared for bottling.

### VINEYARD

Wratonbully 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 Wratonbully dunes produce the advantage of cold air drainage which reduces the risk of frost during the growing season.

#### TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

BLEND:	Shiraz (100%)
BOTTLING DATE:	10/2020
BOTTLE NUMBER RANGE:	1 - 4365
PH:	3.52
TA:	6.1 g/l
ALC/VOL:	14.8%
STANDARD DRINKS:	8.8



93 POINTS - HALLIDAY WINE COMPANION  
Ned Goodwin MW - PUBLISHED 5 OCT 2021

This is good. A real step up in tannic refinement. A fine site, to be sure. Ferrous gravels over hallowed limestone. Detailed, juicy and moreish, those noble tannins ascend the gears of balance and finesse with air. Blue fruits, licorice, a swab of tapenade, pepper and clove, all lingering long. Wratonbully menthol, ever so slight, across the finish.

## PEPPER TREE WINES PTY LTD

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