

AUSTRALIAN WINE
MADE OUR WAY

Grenache in Australia
An Evolving Classic

Friday October 20th, 2023

SWE

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HISTORY OF
GRENACHE
IN AUSTRALIA

- Has been in Australia since 1832
- Thrived in the warmer regions
- Historically formed the backbone of classic dry red wines
- Important in Fortified wine production
- Evolution of single varietal Grenache
- Sneaky super star of the classic varieties

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VITICULTURE:
HOW AUSTRALIAN GRENACHE IS GROWN

OLD BUSH (GOBLET) VINES

DRY GROWN
Copes well in hot conditions with no irrigation and harsh pruning.

HIGH YIELDS
= FRUITY, LESS COMPLEX WINES

LOW YIELDS
= MORE CONCENTRATED FLAVOR AND CHARACTER

GRENACHE

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**DO OLD VINES
MAKE BETTER WINES**

- Old vines versus young vine physiology
 - Carbohydrate reserves
 - Root penetration
 - Balanced canopies
- Epigenetics

Dylan Grigg!!

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<https://digital.library.adelaide.edu.au/dspace/handle/2440/113314>

Epigenetics: Grigg's research showed that old vines use epigenetic modification to learn or remember stress. Accumulation of markers. Vines adjust.

And these characteristics are heritable.

Other Gems From Dylan:

Isohydric versus Anisohydric

Grenache is isohydric – senses drop in soil water potential or an increase in atmospheric demand. Stomata close early.

Shiraz is anisohydric – continues to transpire even when soil water content diminishes. Poor stomata adjustment capacity. Shuts down later – less water efficient.

Why bush vines work? Higher trained vines can suffer from cavitation. This is a physiological dysfunction that takes place in the xylem of a water stressed vine. Loss of hydraulic conductance. Too much evaporation demand from stomata. Can't pull from the roots - water column snaps.

ARTICLE IMAGE BY MARKUS WILK

REUTERS PHOTO/OLIVIERO TOSCANI

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WINEMAKING

**TECHNIQUES INFLUENCING
GRENACHE STYLE**



WHOLE-BERRY
FERMENTATION



STEM INCLUSION



WHOLE-CLUSTER (WHOLE BUNCH)
FERMENTATION

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WINEMAKING

**TECHNIQUES INFLUENCING
GRENACHE STYLE**



CARBONIC
MACERATION



EXTENDED SKIN
CONTACT



STAINLESS
STEEL TANKS



MATURATION

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**AUSTRALIAN GRENACHE
AND BLENDING**

As a straight
variety dry
red wine



As blending material,
particularly with Shiraz
and Mataro (Mourvèdre)
in GSM blends



In rosés



In fortified wines,
especially Tawny
styles

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BAROSSA OLD VINE CHARTER

HOW OLD IS OLD?



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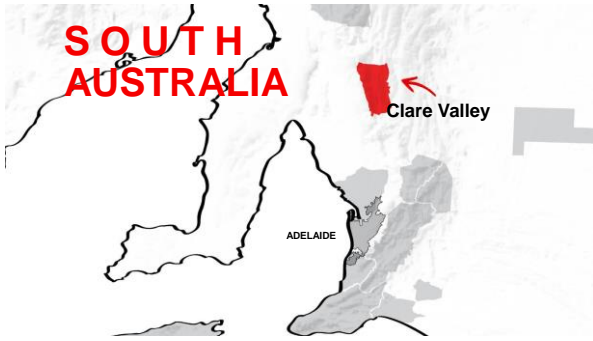


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McLAREN VALE

- Like Barossa, McLaren Vale has many Old Vine vineyard sites
- While Shiraz is more extensively planted, Grenache has become a signature variety in the region
- Several producers credited with reshaping the style and image of Grenache
- Full range of styles Grenache is capable of producing can be found in this region

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GSM BLEND



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Wines to look for.....



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