

Mr. Riggs

McLaren Vale



Regional Series

2021 Mr. Riggs The Gaffer Shiraz

The Regional Series wines pays homage to whence they came. The aim of all Mr. Riggs wines is to express the essence of the vineyards and varieties.

History

The Gaffer is a tribute to Ben Riggs' great-great-great grandfather, John "The Gaffer" Riggs (1814-1902), who was one of South Australia's most renowned farmers. This McLaren Vale Shiraz was made to acknowledge 150 years of the Riggs family's rich farming heritage in South Australia. Since 2006 The Gaffer Shiraz has worn its pink cap in acknowledgement of our partnership with the Flinders Foundation and their fight against cancer. Mr. Riggs Wine Co. has proudly donated \$183,000 towards cancer research through proceeds of the sales of The Gaffer.

Vineyard

The fruit for "The Gaffer" has been sourced from five vineyards; Martins, Gateway, John Rivers, Tim Hunts and Piebald Gully vineyard. All in different sub-regions of McLaren Vale; from the warmest, earliest picked vineyards to the coolest, latest picked vineyards. Blending the sub-regions together brings out the best of the variety and is key to the iconic Gaffer style.

Vintage

2021 was one of the best vintages I have seen in McLaren Vale, and one of my top five vintages ('91, '94, '04, '10, '21). A wet winter and a wet but warm spring provided great conditions for vine growth and healthy canopies. An unusually warm and dry November progressed flowering and berries were set by the end of the month. A mild summer allowed for perfect ripening conditions. With higher-than-average yields the fruit quality is exceptional

showing classic McLaren Vale characteristics, juicy, soft, amazing structure and fruit led.

Winemaking

Picked on different days the fruit from the five vineyards are separately fermented in 5 tonne open fermenters. Fermented on skins for 7 - 10 days the 20% of the wine is then pressed straight to barrel from press. The wine was then matured in oak, 90% French and 10% American. Parcels of fruit are then blended just before bottling.

Tasting Note

The Gaffer Shiraz is a testament to the best of McLaren Vale. A medium weight Shiraz, the style of The Gaffer is soft, flavoursome, and fruit driven. Distinctive McLaren Vale characteristics shine through with a spine of sweet, soft, warm tannins whilst on the palate is crunchy, bright, red berries. A wine worth sharing with good friends to help raise funds for a great cause.

Technical Details

pH:	3.56
TA:	6.18
Alc/Vol:	14.5%
Bottling date:	2nd August 2022
Winemaker:	Ben Riggs

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