



Not content with the versions made over in the Rhône Valley, we've taken it a notch higher in fruity intensity with our Syrah Viognier from a superb vintage.

The Story

In 638 AD, the legend of The Monkey King was born. Every bit as mischievous and furry as his smaller relatives - no amount of wine could quell his divine thirst and no amount of roasted coconuts (Noix de Coco Rôties) could satisfy his heavenly hunger. The Monkey King also possessed immense strength, able to lift barrels with ease and traverse continents with a single somersault.

The Wine

Our winemaker spied out on the best of South Australia's, premium, tiny-berried Shiraz for this blend. It's the same grape as the Rhône's Syrah and as this wine is closer akin to its French cousin, we'll call it by his French name.

The Syrah comes from close friends - RedHeads Movement Members - Jeff McMurtrie, John Kalleske, Darren Arney and the Lloyd Brothers. The fruit is top-notch and these families all know exactly what they're doing! These are farmers who know their vineyards better than anyone; they've been on these patches in the Barossa, McLaren Vale and Adelaide Hills all of their lives (some of them still do business the "old school" way with only a handshake to seal the deal).

We co-fermented Syrah with Viognier the traditional way, as they do in the Rhône; just the Viognier skins as the juice is saved for another RedHeads Wine. We employed open-top concrete fermenters with a heading down board to keep the cap submerged for the whole fermentation. It's an old fashioned way, it's labour intensive, but makes for interesting wines with more depth!

We also held some Syrah back for use in our open-top, stainless steel fermenters. Temperature control and attention to detail allow us to retain primary fruit flavours with hand-plunging twice a day. The different components each enjoyed 10-12 days maceration for colour and flavour.

Oak aged for 10 months with new and seasoned, French and American oaks

Tasting Note

Full bodied South Australian power that's wrapped up in the an elegant Viognier cloak providing balance, lift and aromatics. Layered blackberry, blueberry, clove, spice and apricot develop into a complete experience fit for the fabled Monkey King himself!



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Grapes: Syrah, Viognier

Alcohol (abv): 14.5%

Cellar Potential: 8 years



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