

SC Pannell

S.C. Pannell Smart Grenache is a masterful expression of McLaren Vale's highest altitude Grenache vineyard, showcasing elegance and aromatic complexity.

S.C.PANNELL
MCLAREN VALE

96



Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 100% Grenache

Smart Grenache 2020

McLaren Vale, Australia

Region and Vineyards

The **S.C. Pannell Smart Grenache** originates from the **Smart Vineyard** in the **Clarendon** sub-region of **McLaren Vale**, Australia. This vineyard, planted in 1955, holds the distinction of being the highest altitude Grenache vineyard in McLaren Vale. The vineyard's unique location in the ironstone-rich warmth of Clarendon contributes to its high-toned aromatic notes, reminiscent of those found in Blewitt Springs.

The vines are now **67 years old**, rooted in **siltstone** soils. The vineyard practices sustainable viticulture, reflecting a commitment to environmental stewardship and the production of high-quality grapes.

Winemaking

This vintage was meticulously crafted to honor the unique qualities of the Grenache grape. The grapes were **hand harvested**, when they reached 13.7 Baume, ensuring optimal ripeness and flavor concentration. The juice was fermented naturally in small open-top fermenters, entirely destemmed with daily pump-overs and 10 days on skins. This gentle approach to fermentation preserved the grape's delicate flavors and aromas.

The wine was then **aged for 15 months** in an old 28hL French foudre and two large puncheons. This careful aging process in seasoned oak allowed the wine to develop complexity and depth without overpowering the fruit character. The wine was racked twice and bottled without filtration in late June, resulting in a total production of 442 cases.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Bright ruby
- **Aroma**: Intensely perfumed with notes of **citrus peel**, **framboise**, and **kirsch**, reminiscent of the 1980s.
- **Palate**: Composed, juicy, and seductive with velvety tannins. The wine offers a 'gotcha' moment on the back palate and an achingly long finish.

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Did you know?

Did you know that Bernard Smart, now 86 years old, has worked the land all his life and planted many of the best sites in McLaren Vale? The Smart Vineyard, where this Grenache is sourced, showcases the dedication and expertise of a lifetime of viticultural experience.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Lamb Shawarma**: The wine's juicy and aromatic profile pairs beautifully with the rich and spiced flavors of lamb shawarma.
- **Duck Confit**: The velvety tannins and vibrant fruit notes complement the succulent and savory character of duck confit.
- **Mushroom Risotto**: The wine's complexity and long finish enhance the earthy and creamy flavors of a well-prepared mushroom risotto.
- **Provencal Ratatouille**: The aromatic intensity and composed palate make an excellent match with the herby and vegetable-rich dish.



Robert Parker (RP) : 96 Points (2020)

The fruit for the 2020 Smart Grenache is from 65-year-old bush vines within the Smart family vineyard in Clarendon. Pannell has built a reputation over the years for high quality, excellent value wines, and this, of course, is no exception. On the nose, this is brooding and spicy, with toasted Sichuan peppercorns, a touch of hoisin, pure raspberry coulis, star anise and saffron. In the mouth, the wine is succulent, textural and kaleidoscopic—it moves and undulates across the palate, the fruit a tumbling cascade of berries, minerals and brine. The tannins are glorious; fine, firm and malleable. An impressive release—pure and driven.