



RUSTY MUTT

- TASTING NOTE - 2019 ORIGINAL SHIRAZ

THE NAME

"I called my wine range 'Rusty Mutt' as I was born in the Year of The Metal Dog in Chinese Astrology. Metal Dog was then 'Australianised' to Rusty Mutt. The first wine I produced under my Rusty Mutt label was a Shiraz, hence 'Original'."
- Scott Heidrich (Owner / Winemaker).

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

Vintage 2019 in McLaren Vale commenced with a dry winter and spring, coupled with record heat and dry conditions throughout summer leading to an early and compacted vintage. Yields in the vineyards were only slightly below average despite the unusually low rainfall recorded throughout the growing season. January 2019 was Australia's warmest on record with McLaren Vale experiencing record heat (46.2°C) on January 24th.

Conditions lent themselves to smaller berries with good concentration of flavour. The report from winemakers on wine quality has been very good, and winemaking was made easier by lower tonnages allowing for close attention the winery.

WINEMAKERS NOTES

Very deep and inky in colour with youthful red hues. The aroma leads with a sweet oak lactone with a hint of vanilla, perfectly supplementing the black cherry and mulberry notes. Time in the glass reveals licorice and fruit infused dark chocolate.

There's a real intensity on the palate. Distinctive dark cherry flavours with a chocolate element are evident initially, then spice, dried herbs and aged savoury meats are revealed. Grippy oak tannins provide a very ample structure which finishes fine and strong.

FOOD MATCH

Enjoy with Smoked Brisket, BBQ Ribs, Beef Stew, BBQ Italian Sausages, Beef Kebabs and Portobello Mushrooms. A nice hard Cheddar or creamy Blue to finish would work well.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Winemaker: Scott Heidrich

Region: McLaren Vale

Varietal: Shiraz

Oak Treatment: Aged in second fill American and French oak hogsheads for 30 months.

Alc: 14.5% **pH:** 3.40 **TA:** 6.45g/L **RS:** 2.9g/L



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