



RUSTY MUTT

2015 RUSTY MUTT VERMILION BIRD 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 **Vermilion Bird Shiraz** is a wine that sits above, drawing on Chinese astrology, where the southern sky is guarded by the Vermilion Bird. This celestial realm includes Canis Major and Canis Minor, home to the Dog Star Sirius." – Scott Heidrich (owner / winemaker)

VINTAGE CONDITIONS

The 2015 McLaren Vale vintage was marked by a warm, dry season that encouraged excellent fruit quality and minimal disease pressure. Mild spring weather ensured even flowering, followed by a steady summer that promoted consistent ripening and concentrated flavours.

Yields were modest, yet the resulting wines were exceptional - reds offering deep colour, ripe tannins and rich dark fruit, while whites showed purity and freshness. Overall, 2015 delivered balanced, vibrant wines with strong regional character.

WINEMAKERS NOTES

Deep, opaque crimson with a vibrant purple rim, this wine opens with lifted aromas of blackberry, mulberry and dark plum, supported by notes of licorice, cocoa, clove and a hint of dried herb.

The palate is powerful yet beautifully composed, offering concentrated black fruits, dark chocolate and warm spice wrapped in fine, velvety tannins. Subtle oak integrates seamlessly, adding polish and depth. A long, driven finish highlights the wine's richness, balance and impressive ageing potential.

FOOD MATCH

Pairs beautifully with slow-roasted lamb, grilled venison, or rich mushroom dishes; also complements aged cheddar or dark chocolate desserts.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Winemaker: Scott Heidrich

Region: McLaren Vale

Varietal: Shiraz

Winemaking: Open ferments, pumped over daily. 7 days on skins before membrane pressing. Matured in a mix of second fill French and American oak puncheons and hogsheads for 22 months.

Alc: 14.5% **pH:** 3.41 **TA:** 6.95g/L **RS:** 2.1g/L



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