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2022 KALLESKE JMK SHIRAZ VP

JMK Shiraz VP is a luscious fortified Shiraz grown and vintaged on the Kalleske family farm at Greenock in the North-Western Barossa Valley. This wine is dedicated to fifth generation grapegrower, John Malcolm Kalleske (JMK), who has tended the Kalleske family vineyards for more than 50 years. The vineyard for this special wine was hand pruned and harvested by John. JMK Shiraz reflects the dedication of John and the generations before him to the treasured Kalleske vineyard.

GROWING SEASON

The 2022 vintage was excellent. Winter was significantly wetter than average getting the vines off to a brilliant start leading into Spring which was cool with median rainfall. Summer was mild and dry apart from rain on the last day. Autumn remained mild with generally perfect mid-20s weather combined with cool nights ensuring steady even ripening across all varieties. The 2022 yields were good and the quality is great, a classic Barossa vintage displaying rich flavours with fine balance.

VINEYARD

Kalleske JMK Shiraz VP is sourced from select blocks of the Kalleske vineyard. The vineyard consists of shallow, sandy loam soil over superb deep red clay and limestone, providing ideal conditions for Shiraz vines.

WINEMAKING

The grapes were harvested on March 30th and then fermented in an open top fermenter with hand pump-overs twice a day. Sweetness and flavours of the fermenting grapes were closely monitored and when at desired levels, at 7 days after harvest, grape spirit was added, arresting the fermentation to retain some natural grape sweetness. A combination of young and old (up to 23 years) brandy spirit was used to fortify the wine, ensuring added complexity. The wine was pressed off skins after 23 days and then matured in well-seasoned hogsheads for 7 months. At this time, only the very best barrels were selected to be included in the bottling of this liqueur Shiraz.

TASTING NOTES

2022 JMK Shiraz VP is deep red-black in colour.

The aroma is intense with dominant black fruit, namely dark cherry and sweet plums, along with heritage rose floral notes. Clove spice, toffee and brandied fruit cake are also evident. Dynamic, complex, and very attractive.

These inviting aromas lead to a rich, lush, black-fruit driven palate. It is full-bodied with pristine dark fruits throughout. The natural grape sweetness is perfectly in check, complimenting and enhancing the pure fruit without dominating. The innate tannins are super fine, showing themselves midway through and then continuing to the end providing a clean, refreshing and very lengthy dry finish. Grape spirit is perfectly meshed, providing character and balance. JMK is a harmonious and opulent wine that can be enjoyed now or after a decade or more in the cellar.

