

## COONAWARRA

Majella Sparkling Shiraz 2022

Sparkling red wines are a great Australian tradition, and along with other wineries, Majella has kept the tradition alive with our very popular Sparkling Shiraz.

## **Vintage Conditions**

Coonawarra experienced another strong vintage in 2022. With stable conditions, high-quality fruit and moderate to good yields we ended slightly below the long-term average yield for the region.

Coonawarra received close to the long-term average rainfall throughout winter. Overall it was a mild growing season, with no prolonged heat waves or hot days. The ideal flowering conditions and above-average temperature throughout January resulted in all varieties going through veraison quickly. A great sign of a very even year, with minimal variability between bunches and within bunches. Dry conditions continued through summer, and consequently, berries remained small with thick skins.

Coonawarra did receive a couple of rainfall events in mid-Spring, which combined with cooler temperatures, reduced the irrigation needs for the remainder of the season, which was beneficial to general vine health. These climatic conditions lead to steady increases in maturity levels, allowing winemakers to pick at optimum levels for ripeness and flavour.

Based on the colour and aromas that are coming through in the finished ferments, 2022 points to a good vintage with lovely firm acidity in the whites and good fruit expression and tannins across all reds, which will translate into wines that have good cellaring potential.

## Winemaking

The base wine of our sparkling Shiraz is matured in 2nd and 3rd use French oak hogsheads for 5 months before secondary fermentation in bottle. The wine is on "lees" for 14 months and using methode traditionalle, the bottles are hand riddled, then disgorged and a small amount of liqueur (vintage port) is added for extra complexity.

Disgorged September 2023.

Grape Variety 100% Shiraz

Region Coonawarra

## **Winemakers Comments**

The colour is a vibrant dark red with a bright ruby hue. Exhibiting a fine bead with attractive ripe red currant, plum, raspberry and blackberry aromas with similar fruit characters on the palate, which is very smooth, balanced and rich with gentle tannins and a generous finish.

Cellaring: enjoy now or cellar up to 10 years

