

# rise vineyards

## **Background:**

A James Halliday Australian Wine Companion ★★★★★ rated producer owned by Grant Norman and Matt McCulloch. The two are wine industry veterans and friends from opposite ends of the world (New Zealand and Scotland) who fell in love with South Australia's bucolic Clare Valley, settling there with their families.

## **Region:**

Armagh, Clare Valley, South Australia.

## **Vineyard:**

From blocks 1 and 2 of the Edwards family's Ballingarry Estate, planted in 1998 on sandy clay loam soils at 430 metres altitude.

## **2014 Growing Season:**

Above average winter rains were followed by a mild spring with below average rain resulting in an even bud burst in September. Flowering took place during a cool November and December was warm and dry. January and February were hot with 20 days above 35°C, however on 14 February 66mm of rain fell. Fortunately there was only minimal berry split and the rain also provided relief from any water stress. From mid-February on, the season changed from midsummer to autumn, with mild days and cool nights, the ideal ripening conditions in the run up to harvest.

## **Winemaking:**

The grapes spent two weeks on their skins in open fermenters with daily pump-overs to more gently extract colour, flavours and tannins. This was followed by careful pressing with a portion of the wine going through malolactic transformation in oak barrels prior to fifteen months' maturation.

## **Tasting Note:**

Bursting with black pepper and blueberry aromas on the nose followed by a plush palate of blackberry and plum with hints of chocolate, spices and toasty oak with a complex, lengthy finish.

## **Production:**

476 dozen. Bottled June 2015.

**Analysis:** pH 3.53 TA 6.87g/L Alcohol 14.5% G&F 1.1g/L Suitable for vegans and vegetarians

