



# HELEN'S HILL

SINGLE VINEYARD YARRA VALLEY



## Helen's Hill 'Hill Top' Syrah 2019

### ABOUT

When planning Helen's Hill we had a specific site in mind that would help us enhance the intensity and structure that this variety can produce when given the chance. Planted on the highest point of Helen's Hill with full exposure to the harsh western sun in Summer, our Syrah vines thrive. Creating a more robust wine than a lot of cool-climate Syrah yet lacks none of the finesse or elegance is our goal and this block of vines achieves that for us with impressive regularity.

### 2019 VINTAGE REPORT

The vintage kicked off with warmer than average temperatures throughout winter and above-average rainfall, setting up the vines with everything they needed for the growing season. Flowering was successful in November and crop loads were consistent and generous. The 2019 vintage will be remembered most for its sustained heat throughout the entire ripening season. This suited our syrah crop perfectly, leading to the development of great flavours and sugar and allowing us to create a robust syrah with intensity and mouth weight.

### WINEMAKERS NOTES

Picked on flavour, once the fruit enters the winery it is destemmed then lightly crushed before being transferred to open-top fermenters for primary fermentation on skins for 12 days. In this time the wine develops colour and structure via extraction. We then press off the wine into French oak puncheons (40% new) for 18 months to further develop.

### TASTING NOTES

For a Syrah that comes from a cool climate region, this wine displays impressively robust fruit character and mouth weight. Black plums, spice, liquorice and tobacco work in unison to excite the pallet first up. A natural line of acidity providing structure along with subtle French oak. Drinking well now and will reward the patient in years to come with further development.



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