



Helen's Hill 2018 'Hilltop' Syrah



ABOUT

At Helen's Hill, we like to think of ourselves as all-rounders. It's an ethos that serves you well in a family business. That being as it is, our Hilltop Syrah has a real soft spot in our hearts. It's the all-rounder's style of Shiraz that's begun to pick up somewhat of a cult following in big red drinking circles. The Yarra Valley provides our Shiraz vines with the ability to produce a style of wine that has an elegance to it that is simply unattainable for classical Australian Shiraz. It broadens our Syrah's potential for food pairings and drinking occasions immeasurably, and we love it! Grown on the 'Hill Top', the highest point of Helen's Hill, the vines are exposed to the hottest temperatures on our property, allowing them to thrive.

WINEMAKERS NOTES

Once the fruit is in the winery it is crushed and pressed off into open top fermenting vats to sit for 14 days on skins. After primary ferment the wine is racked across to French Oak barrels (40% new) to mature for 18 months. The result, as owner Allan Nalder describes it, is an iron fist in a velvet glove. A cool climate Syrah with all the elegance and power required to make a lasting impression.

2018 VINTAGE REPORT

Moderate rainfall in winter led into above average temperatures and a very successful flowering period of October and November. Generous rainfall throughout spring, along with warm spring temperatures, led to good yields. Warm but not extreme temperatures continued into summer and meant an early start to harvest. A dry March, with cool overnight temperatures, kept disease pressure low and allowed grapes to retain excellent natural acidity.

TASTING NOTES

Deep, verging inky, colour; an intense wine in every respect, taking no prisoners and a nigh-on perfect example of how much power cool-grown shiraz can generate. This bold Shiraz hits the palate with power and presence. Lashings of dark fruit with notes of incense and aromatic spices, floral hints add layers and complexity. The wine rolls across the palate coating every corner of your mouth.

Colour	Dark Crimson.
Aroma	Black Plum and Spices.
Palate	Intense dark fruits, powerful tannins.
Skin Contact Time	14 Days



HELEN'S HILL

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