



# RICCA TERRA

## 2021 BULLETS BEFORE CANNONBALLS

### ---VARIETAL MIX---

Tempranillo, Shiraz, Lagrein & Lambrusco

### ---REGION---

Riverland

### ---THE STORY---

Mythology has it, 'inexperienced sailors were defeated by enemy ships as a result of firing cannonballs that missed their targets. Such defeats could have been avoided if the trajectory of the cannonball was calculated prior to being fired. Experienced sailors did this by firing bullets first. While a single bullet could never sink an enemy's ship, it allowed for the precise calculation of how high and wide the cannonball should be shot... to ensure a fatal hit occurred'.

Ricca Terra Farms has taken the 'fire bullets before cannonballs' philosophy when it comes to planting new grape varieties. Rather than mass planting a new grape variety and then learning how it behaves as a vine and as a wine, Ricca Terra Farms' approach has been to plant small plots of a new grape variety; then watch, wait and learn (firing bullets). When the right bullet is identified, the cannonball is loaded and fired... meaning the grape variety is introduced into Ricca Terra Farms' grape variety portfolio.

### ---THE STRATEGY BEHIND THE BLEND---

The red grapes used to make this wine are some of the standout Mediterranean varieties found planted in Australia. Ashley's aim was to craft a wine that 'shouted a statement' to the world that blends of Mediterranean grape varieties grown in the Riverland would make great wines. The bullets have been shot... now for the cannonball!

### ---TECHNICAL STUFF---

The mediterranean varieties selected in this blend were hand-picked and then placed in a cool room immediately after harvest to preserve fruit quality (cooled to 4 degrees Celsius). The aim in making this was to allow the fruit flavours dominate, therefore only three year-old oak barrels were used to store this wine.



Ashley Ratcliff  
ashley@riccaterrafarms.com.au  
0411 370 057