

# tscharke

## Bed Hair Graciano 2019



### VINTAGE REPORT

The 2019 vintage was one of elation as years of sustainable agricultural practice was rewarded with Organic certification by NASAA. The challenging growing season demanded careful vineyard management, with the implementation of under-vine mulching and increased irrigation ensuring the maintenance of healthy canopies, and even ripening throughout.

The extreme heat of both January and February saw early ripening varieties picked in quick succession, before some relief from the heat was offered in March. The bright sunny days and cool nights enhanced flavour development of our Mataro, Grenache and Montepulciano, emphasising motivation to invest into more of these heartier, later ripening varieties in future vineyard developments.

### VINEYARD

The Graciano vineyard is located on our Stonewell Estate. Planted in 2002, it is an ideal site for this premium Spanish grape variety. The perched vineyard is often exposed to persistent winds that help maintain a healthy dry canopy that has little to no disease pressures. The brown clay soils have shallow underlying sedimentary bedrock. Graciano is a late ripening grape variety but despite the longer ripening period it has an exceptional ability to retain remarkable natural acidity.

### WINEMAKING

The machine-harvested fruit is crushed to an open top fermenter. The must is inoculated and allowed to ferment between 22-25°C until dry, before pressing. Its cap is managed by pumping over twice daily without splashing, and barrel élevage is undertaken with seasoned French oak hogsheads. The wine is bottled 12 months after harvest to ensure the style retains its vibrancy and primary fruit freshness.

### TASTING NOTES

An intense and interesting nose displays botanical characters of juniper berries, pine needles and tea leaves, whilst the dark fruit plays purely a secondary role. Nice presence and weight on the palate: round and lingering with subtle notes of oak to complement the jammy blueberry and blackberry tones. This wine is forward and fearless, in a surprisingly good way.

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|---------------------|---------------|
| Vintage             | 2019          |
| Vineyard            | Stone Well    |
| Variety             | 100% Graciano |
| Alcohol             | 15% / vol.    |
| pH                  | 3.46          |
| Titrateable Acidity | 6.45g / L     |