



BATTLE  
*of*  
BOSWORTH

MCLAREN VALE



# Battle of Bosworth McLaren Vale 2014 Shiraz

## Battle of Bosworth Wines

The wines take their name from the original Battle of Bosworth, fought on Bosworth Field, Leicestershire, England in 1485. Here the last of the Plantagenet Kings, Richard the III, was slain by Henry Tudor, becoming the last king of England to die in battle. His death ended the War of the Roses.

The roots of the Bosworth family's battle were planted in the early 1840's with their first vineyard in McLaren Vale. The modern day Battle of Bosworth saw the conversion of 'Edgehill' vineyard to organic viticulture by Joch Bosworth in 1995. This McLaren Vale 'Battle of Bosworth' is symbolised on the label by the yellow Soursob (*Oxalis pes caprae*) which is used in the vineyard to combat other weeds.

## Organic Viticulture

Organic farming is based on minimising the use of external inputs, and as such our certified organic grapes are grown and processed without the use of synthetic chemicals or fertilisers. Our system of organic viticulture at Battle of Bosworth works with nature rather than against it, and by keeping harmful chemicals out of the land, water and air, creates a healthy environment rich in flora, fauna and nutrients; the perfect environment for growing the very best quality wine grapes.

Battle of Bosworth grows Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot, Chardonnay, Viognier, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Grigio, Pinot Noir and Mourvèdre (and a little Graciano and Touriga Nacional) which are fully certified 'A' grade organic by Australian Certified Organic (ACO), a process that takes four years. The vines are all now 20 years and older.

## Vintage 2014

Vintage 2014 was a season of extremes for us all in McLaren Vale. We had great winter rains which gave us a full soil moisture profile in time for a dry and windy spring. They don't call it windy Willunga for nothing. If we'd had a set of wind chimes on the property, we would have heard them all day and night from September to January. We had a series of very hot days in January, followed by about 45mm of rain over a 48 period in early February which slowed ripening of our red grapes right down. We had picked all of our white grapes prior to the rain 'event' and so we had a decent break between whites and reds, like the good old days. There was no splitting of any of the grapes left on the vine after the rain, mercifully, either. Joch's analysis of 2014 is that it was a gentleman's vintage - everything came in slowly and in order, not like the mad rush of 2013. Every vintage is different; truism of our time, and of our industry.

## Winemaking

Traditionally the Battle of Bosworth Shiraz is a crowd-pleasing style of wine; always delicious, ripe but not over-ripe and always faithful to region and site. The 2014 is no exception. Winemaking is fairly standard. We pick, crush and then ferment in open vessels and pump over the juice at least 3 times a day. This helps extract the maximum fruit characters and colour from the skins. The wine finishes its ferment in barrels - of various ages and types. We use predominantly French oak barrels with a smattering of American. We also blend a small percentage of cordon cut, vine dried Shiraz to the wine prior to bottling. It really is that simple.

## Tasting Note

You will find dark red fruits on the nose as well as fresh AND smoked meat. This last descriptor may not appeal to non-meat eaters. This wine is plush, but this plushness is wrapped around a fine structure and is flooded with flavour. It's an all-round very stylish wine.

## Technical Details

Vineyards: 'The Hill', Braden's and Chanticleer  
Picking Dates: 28th Feb, 7th March, 13th March and 17th March 2014  
Alc/ Vol: 14.5%  
Bottling Date: 27th July 2015



Organically Grown, Traditionally Vinified