



# Battle of Bosworth McLaren Vale 2021 Vintage Fortified Touriga Nacional

#### **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 1850'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 fertilizers. 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, Semillon, Viognier, Sauvignon Blanc and Mourvèdre (as well as some Touriga Nacional and Graciano) which are fully certified 'organic by Australian Certified Organic (ACO), a process that takes four years. The vines are all now 20 years and older.

#### Vintage 2021

Good winter and early spring rains were followed by a generally dry and mild growing season. After the leaner vintages of 2019 and 2020 it was nice to see a return to long term average crop levels. We had a slow and steady ripening period without any excessive heat spikes which has resulted in super varietal fruit intensity and balanced natural acidity.

A Mary Poppins kind of vintage; practically perfect! Joch is always loathe to comment favourably about vintage quality, for fear of jinxing things - he can be superstitious like that, but by the end of harvest, the word 'exceptional' was heard to come out of his mouth.

### Winemaking

What a beauty! Our second vintage. Joch picked the Touriga when it was nice and ripe. The variety has terrific tannins and structure; perfect for a vintage port. Fermented in open vessels, the wine is then fortified with brandy grape spirit (which halts fermentation) and brings the alcohol up to about 19% Alc/ vol. The port then matures in big old oak barrels for about a year before being bottled. Should last for a good long while in bottle.

## **Tasting Note**

Floral characters on the nose as well as blue fruits and bergamot. The wine has a very full, soft palate with integrated spirit. The palate has great length, and with heaps of flavour. A very Iberian style of port.

## **Technical Details**

Vineyards: Dutchman's, Bradens and a little bit from Chanticleer

Varieties: Touriga Nacional 92% Shiraz 8%

Picking Dates: 7th April 2021 Alc/ Vol: 19.0% alc/vol Bottling Date: 2nd March 2022







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