



SAORSA

2020 SYRAH

HAWKE'S BAY

VINEYARD- Grown in the Hawke's Bay subregion of Paki Paki. This idyllic hillside site has gentle North facing slopes with shallow limestone soils. A slightly more inland area of Hawke's Bay with long hot days and an abundance of sunlight. This presence of light and heat combined with the natural slope of the site and the presence of limestone allows our Syrah to boast both masculine and delicate floral tones.

GROWING SEASON- 2020 will be a harvest we will always remember! A harvest of exceptional quality and almost perfect growing and ripening conditions, then matched with the extra challenges of Covid-19 right on harvest. Hawke's Bay saw a reasonably warm and dry winter season, which led to an early bud burst in the vineyards. The growing season was also warm and dry, with the theme in the vineyard running early throughout the entire season leading to a very early kick off to the start of harvest. The summer and Autumn period were long and dry, allowing us to pick when we wanted with no pressure from rain. 2020 saw perfect conditions across all varieties from early to late, with temperatures remaining warm but not excessively hot allowing for freshness and acid retention.

VINIFICATION- Hand harvested 16th March and transported to the winery where the fruit was transferred to fermenter and gently foot crushed to allow for 100% whole cluster fermentation. A short cold soak period led to fermentation with indigenous yeast. Cap management was gentle délestage in the presence of oxygen. A technique we have used in the past and have returned to almost entirely. Fermentation and maceration lasted 20 days before being pressed. A short settling period before running the wine to neutral oak where malo-lactic fermentation started in the following spring. Aged in oak for 14 months with a single bâtonnage post Malo-lactic fermentation. Blended and naturally gravity settled in tank prior to bottling with no fining or filtration and only a small addition of sulphur. Bottled 29th October 2021.

Alcohol- 12.5%