



# SAORSA

## 2023 HILLSIDE GRENACHE

### HAWKE'S BAY

**VINEYARD-** Located in the meandering hillsides above the Tuki Tuki River in Hawke's Bay sits a micro plot of beautiful Grenache. A gentle north facing slope bathed in all day sun high above the river. Tucked into the harsh soils of hard clay and bands of stoney red metal. Cooling river winds matched with intense heat of the valley provide a perfect situation for delicate, aromatic and juicy Grenache.

**VINTAGE-** 2023 was a very intense and challenging season! Hawke's Bay saw a very wet growing season leading to intense canopy growth in the vines. This challenging growing season was completely surpassed by cyclone Gabrielle which engulfed Hawke's Bay in early February as we were preparing for harvest. This made for an extremely difficult start to harvest until we were blessed by an extended period of dry weather for a Hawke's Bay Indian Summer leading to some great fruit quality in later varieties. 2023 shows great aromatics, crispness and a marked delicacy in the wines.

**VINIFICATION-** Hand harvested 19 April and transported to the winery where the fruit was 100% destemmed and placed whole berry to tank for fermentation. A short cold soak period led to fermentation with indigenous yeast. Cap management was gentle hand plunging. Fermentation and maceration lasted 15 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 13 months on full solids 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 15<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

Alcohol- 13.0%

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