

The Wayward Girl

Vintage 2014

HAND... WELL... EVERYTHING

Hand picked, hand plunged around the clock, bucketed to the basket press, regularly tested & tasted.

160 YEARS OF RUSHLEA COTTAGE

Celebrating the birthday of our little cellar door, built in 1856 as the first homestead of Eden Valley.

We have nurtured this wine through cold winter days of careful pruning, narrowly missing fires, shoot and canopy management, dragging in friends for picking, round the clock hand plunging, boutique basket pressing and rounds of test dummy blending tasters before being hand bottled.

Behind The Label

William Lillecrapp built the first homestead in Eden Valley in 1856, which has since become our cellar door. While the cottage holds many historical stories in its old stone walls, possibly the most fascinating is the tale of the 'Wayward city girls' who were sent to the homestead in the early 1900s if they fell pregnant. We asked good friend and artist Patrick to design a label that recognises the hardships of 'The Wayward Girls'.

Earth and Vine

The grapes were grown in a small vineyard on slightly sloping terrain just behind of our winery. This is part of our unique little property, a hidden little valley within Eden Valley. Featuring ancient soils over shallow slate, providing ideal drainage.

We have put a lot of work into getting the right soil nutrients through comprehensive soil testing and nutrient additions such as organic compost and straw, so that we can be sure our grapes of the best quality they can possibly be.

From Vine to Wine

The grapes were hand-picked before gentle crushing and destemming and transfer to an open top fermenter. The wine was fermented on-skins for over a week with six hourly hand-plunging before being gently transported by hand to basket pressing. The wine was then aged for 26 months in new and aged French oak prior to blending.

Blend ratios: Cabernet Sauvignon 51%, Merlot 43%, Cabernet Franc 6%

Batch Size: Tiny, just 50 cases!

Analysis: Alc: 13.0%, pH: 3.5, TA: 6.5 g/L

The Senses

An intriguing nose of plum, cherry and earthy clove with a hint of black pepper. We're delighted with the balance of elegant tannins and complex flavours.

Cellaring

Plenty of structure to cellar, but it has aged beautifully and is ready to drink now.

