

# THISTLEDOWN WINE COMPANY



## Advance Release Rousanne Rogers Rd. Sellicks Hill 2018

**Only 660 bottles produced.**

Our Advance Release wines offer a portal into the future of Thistledown. Though our focus is very much on Grenache, Shiraz and Chardonnay, it is not an unnatural progression to dabble in some Rhône influenced whites. Relatively rare in South Australia, this example from the southerly reaches of the region benefits from being grown on kurrajong formation soils, famed for the quality of the fruit they provide.

### Vintage Conditions

Though the preceding 2017 was a late, cool and sometimes damp season, it ended with lower than average rainfall for the late season. Above average rainfall in July and August filled soil profiles and dams but from then on the season has been very dry. As low as 40% of average rainfall in areas such as Blewitt Springs in McLaren Vale. It is this dry weather that characterised the 2018 season and the low disease pressure coupled with ideal conditions for flowering and early development set the vines up for an excellent season. With virtually no rainfall between January and April, fruit quality in all areas was very good though some heat stress in February led to isolated defoliation, particularly on Shiraz. As we like to pick “on the way up” our season began quickly with a number of varieties ripening at once but then progressed nicely, with the ability to pick when it suited given the settled weather.

### Viticulture

Single wire trellis, permanent cordon, spur pruned.

### Winemaking

Hand-picked on the 19th February. Whole bunch pressed, settled in tank, racked and wild fermented in barrel. Aged in the same barrique for 8 months.

### Tasting

Aromatic honeysuckle and toasted almond lead through to a beautifully waxy, lemon laden palate with hints of ripe pear, honey and ginger.

**Alcohol:** 14%

**Total Acidity:** 6.27 g/l

**pH:** 3.5

**Residual Sugar:** <2 g/l

**SO<sub>2</sub>:** 72 mg/l

**Fining:** None

**Vegan:** Yes

**Vegetarian:** Yes