

KILIKANOON, CLARE VALLEY, AUSTRALIA

**MENTZENDORFF**  
*wine shippers since*  
1858

# THE DUKE GRENACHE



## DETAILS OF PRODUCTION

Classified as a Reserve wine, the Duke is only released in the very best years that not only showcase the wine itself, but also reflect the variety's rich heritage and pedigree in the valley. The Duke Grenache is carefully blended from two single Grenache vineyards in Watervale, aged 72 and 78 years respectively. Both vineyards dry farmed, hand pruned and hand harvested. Both vineyards loam over limestone soil profiles have contributed greatly to the wine's chemistry, polished tannins and cellaring potential. Parcels selected for power and elegance were destemmed and crushed to small open fermenters where they were held on skins for an extended period to stabilise and integrate flavour, colour and tannin. Basket pressed to seasoned French oak Puncheons and Hogsheads for 15 months allowed for gentle development and the accumulation of complexity. 2016 was a classically cool and damp Clare Valley vintage with lower than average daytime temperatures and periodic rainfall occurring before and over the harvest time. This slowed the ripening process and allowed our winemaking team to harvest each parcel at optimal maturity.

## TASTING NOTES

Deep crimson with brick red hues. Blackberry, star anise and clove are seamlessly intertwined. Dark berries and sweet spice evolve into a sophisticated palate of black forest, charcuterie and smoky oak. Firm, mouth-coating tannin gives line and length to the palate, with vanilla undertones coming from powerful yet balanced oak. Its sense of place carried from start, through to a persistent, flavoursome finish.

## HOW TO SERVE

Can be cellared for 10-12 years. Serve now with warm goats cheese and wild mushroom salad.

<b>VINTAGE</b>
2016
<b>STYLE</b>
Red
<b>BLEND OF GRAPES</b>
100% Grenache
<b>WINEMAKER</b>
Peter Warr & Kirby Graudins
<b>ALCOHOL</b>
14.5%

