



Rise Vineyards

Clare Valley



“An outstanding winery capable of producing wines of very high quality, and did so this year. Also will usually have at least two wines rated at 94 points or above.”

James' Review:

Rise is very much a busman's holiday for owners Grant Norman and Matt McCulloch. The two are a close-knit team, with Grant looking after the business and Matt the wine. Matt spent more than a decade in the UK wine trade, and was a shareholder in Thierry's, one of the UKs largest wine importers at the time. In 2006 Matt and his family moved to the Clare Valley, where he was responsible for sales and marketing at Kirrihill Wines, of which Grant, an Australian wine industry veteran, was general manager. The move to Clare enabled Matt and his wife Gina to realise a long-held dream of owning their own vineyard, growing the grapes and making the wine themselves, with the help of Grant and his wife Alice. Having spent 11 years on the road working with more than 70 winemakers in 13 countries, Matt was convinced the focus of Rise should be on making small-scale, terroir-driven Riesling, Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz, reflecting the unique vineyard sites from which they come.

Author: James Halliday

The McCulloch Vineyard Clare Valley Shiraz 2009

95 Points

“Estate-grown, open-fermented after a seven-day cold soak, then spent two years in new and used French oak. Has kept exceptional crimson-purple colour, and the full-bodied palate looks as if it was bottled yesterday. It has all the super-concentration of Jim Barry's The Armagh, and deserves another five years before consumption to live for another 25 years thereafter.”

Single Vineyard Watervale Riesling 2013

95 Points and Special Value

“Another impressive wine coming from a single block on a high altitude (460m) vineyard on terra rossa soil; relatively early picking and the use of multiple yeasts have resulted in a complex, blossom-filled bouquet, then a highly focused palate with a core of mineral acidity to its persistent citrus core.”

Single Vineyard Clare Valley Shiraz 2010

94 Points

“Good depth to the colour; estate-grown grapes destemmed, open-fermented, plunged, 14 days on skins, basket-pressed, 30 months in new and used French and American oak. With a minor reservation on the amount of oak on the palate, this is a delectable shiraz, with a juicy texture and a long finish.”