



## Ochota Barrels

2020

# 'FROM THE NORTH'

*Mourvèdre | Barossa Valley - Australia*



BIODYNAMIC



NATURAL



VEGAN

### Stats

**Grapes:** 100% Mourvèdre

**Vineyard:** A single site in Light Pass

**Vine Age:** 151-years-old

**Soil Type:** Fine granitic and quartz riddled sand over loamy clay

**Viticulture:** Certified Biodynamic

**Fermentation:** Native – 100% whole-cluster (half hand plunged and the remaining half semi-carbonic)

**Skin Contact:** 8 days

**Aging:** 3 months in seasoned French barrique

**pH:** 3.56

**Total Acidity:** 6 g/L

**Total SO<sub>2</sub>:** 50 ppm

**Total Production:** 106 cases

### Reviews

James Suckling | 95 points

### About

The 'From the North' Mourvèdre is a smoky and aromatically captivating wine that mind bends in the way Mourvèdre never has. 'From the North' is an album from Swedish Hardcore band 'Raised Fist', and Taras was a former punk rock guitarist found this Mourvèdre is a bit 'punk' in that it is anti-Barossa in every way (but still Barossa in ways most don't understand) and it is 'north' of his home in the Adelaide Hills – hence 'From the North.' The fruit comes from one of the oldest plantings on the planet (planted in 1869), at the foothills of the Eden Valley, and is dry-farmed certified biodynamically, but as Taras once said... 'who gives a fuck.' The pulverized granite and quartz soils are effectively very fine sand and are the foundation for these gnarly vines to dig for nutrients.

The fruit was hand-picked in mid-March, kept fully intact and cold soaked for five days until wild yeast fermentation went off in small fermenters. The top portion of the fermentation was mucked about by Taras with gentle hand plunging and squeezing of the tiny berries. The bottom portion of the ferment was not disturbed and fermented semi-carbonically. After eight days the wine was nearly dry and basset-pressed to old French barriques to finish fermentation and age gracefully. After three months the barrels were blended to tank, settled, and bottled without fining or filtration and just a small 40 ppm sulfur addition.

### Tasting Note

"Licorice, Russian caravan tea, black forest cake and medicinal spice ooze from the glass. The exotic black cherry, Moroccan wisp and deep earthy undergrowth has a voluptuous dark aura that seduces one into a haze. (on that....ever been punched in the mouth....well...that ferris blood flavour also seems to sneak in on the palate...bizarre but nicely complex in a freaky way). The palate is long, lithe and richly winds into a sheen of finely tuned tannins that flow across the palate like being wrapped in a warm opiate soaked velvet blanket."

– Taras Ochota