



Konpira Maru

2021

'ADMIRAL ACKBAR'

Sémillon | *Victoria - Australia*



NATURAL



VEGAN

Stats

Grapes: 100% Sémillon
Vineyard: Quarry Ridge Vineyard
Vine Age: 24-years-old
Soil Type: Red clay over basalt with patches of grey loam
Viticulture: Sustainable
Fermentation: Native – small stainless-steel fermenters (100% whole-berry)
Skin Contact: 21 days
Aging: 5 months in stainless-steel
Alcohol: 10.2%
pH: 3.12
Total Acidity: 7.6 g/L
Total SO2: 63 ppm
Total Production: 450 cases

About

Sémillon has a very long history in Australia but is best known for its roots in the Hunter Valley, New South Wales. When dreaming up names for their skin fermented Séms, the Konpira Maru boys literally thought the wines were out of this world, hence the names of fleet commanders Admiral Ackbar (Star Wars) and Admiral Adama (Battlestar Galactica). Admiral Ackbar is from the planet Mon Cala and commands the Mon Calamari fleet...get the tie in to high acid, drinkable, but textural Sémillon? ???? The vineyard source is the Quarry Ridge Vineyard in Kilmore, Victoria, located east the Macedon Ranges of west of Upper Goulburn. This was the last year with Rusty at the helm of Quarry Ridge, so the pressure was on to send him out with a bang. Rusty shocks Sam and Al every year, learning from each passing season, adapting and working with the fruit rather than telling it what he wants it to do. This year's quality is a true testament to Rusty's skills and knowledge of the site. To top it off, Sam and Al think the 2021 is the best release since 2016. Pressure relieved, goal kicked, cheers Rusty.

They made the call to pick with lower than normal sugars under Rusty's tutelage, relying on the fruits purity and lower than average yields to provide depth and concentration. It was one of those late calls which sounds great at the time and then you sh*t yourself on reflection. Probably not the ideal start under the circumstances but once the fruit was in the sheds, their frowns turned upside down. Bins of shiny, clean, beautifully intact, plump citrus bombs staring back at them with acid for days. The berries were destemmed only to ensure that whole berries remain, and then they were soaked for 7 days at 6C in stainless-steel with daily pumpovers.

Tasting Note

On the nose, it's got passionfruit and pineapple skin with freshly ground fennel and coriander. Zingy acidity lights up the palate, while the crunchiness and chalky texture encourages another sip immediately.

