



Lambert Wines

2019

SYRAH

Yarra Valley - Australia



NATURAL



ORGANIC



VEGAN

Stats

Grapes: 100% Syrah

Vineyard: Tibooburra Vineyard

Vine Age: 23-years-old

Soil Type: Black volcanic topsoil over yellow clay with a smattering of granite

Viticulture: Practicing Organic

Fermentation: Native – stainless steel (80% whole-cluster and 20% destemmed & crushed)

Skin Contact: 13 days

Aging: 11 months in 30+-year-old 35hL French & Slavonian foudre

pH: 3.68

Total Acidity: 5.4 g/L

Total SO₂: 36 ppm

Total Production: 600 cases

Reviews

The Wine Front | 95 points

Wine Enthusiast | 94 points

About

The Syrah comes from what might be the coolest microclimate of the Yarra; the south-west sloping, Tibooburra Vineyard in the south-eastern corner of the Valley. Tibooburra supplies Luke with a deeper, darker and more structured Syrah than we typically see in the Yarra. This is what drew Lambert to the site, and is a strong reason this Syrah has become a touchstone example of cool-climate Australian Shiraz. 2019 was a warm and dry year but the evidence of the importance of site is easy to see here.

The fruit, as always, is handpicked and sorted in the vineyard. Once it hits the crushpad the grapes are fermented without any additions and 2019 saw a small change to Luke's 'standard' winemaking practice by introducing a substantial amount more of whole-clusters to the wine that he ever has. He used approximately 80% whole-bunch with the remaining fruit destemmed and fully crushed. Both elements fermented together and 2019 saw a shorter ferment than usual with plenty of daily punchdowns. It was pressed after 13 days on skins directly to 30+-year-old 35hL French & Slavonian foudre where the wine aged for 11 months. At bottling it was racked to tank, hit with a small dose of sulfur and bottled without fining or filtration.

Tasting Note

Opaque ruby. Smoky, mineral-driven aromas of black raspberry, cherry-cola, cured meat and violets, plus a strong spicecake overtone. Intense red berry flavors are lifted by tangy minerality and pick up a floral pastille character with aeration. Impressively energetic and focused, finishing with sexy notes of candied violet and smoky spices and superb length.