

2023 Billy Button “The Rustic” Sangiovese

Sangiovese is the most widely planted variety in Italy, in recent years superior clonal material has been imported into Australia to elevate the quality of the Australian version. The fruit for this wine was sourced from two sites. Bungamero vineyard at Whorouly South on the western edge of the Alpine Valleys region. The Bungamero vineyard, owned and operated by Tim and Mark Walpole, is a mixture of MAT6 and MAT7 clones. The second component was sourced from the Ferraro vineyard in Myrtleford

Production Notes

Approximately a 50/50 split of fruit from Ferraro vineyard and Bungamero Vineyard. All fruit was machine harvested in early April crushed directly to open fermenters where it was inoculated with a selected red wine yeast. Ferments were gently plunged twice daily and once ferment was complete separate batches were pressed to Flexcube for maturation on lees for 8 months. The parcels were then blended, crossflow filtered and bottled in January 2024.

Tasting Notes

Aromas of bright red cherries laced with savoury dried herbs and red earth. On the palate the same lovely red fruit is supported by a finely textured tannin frame. Great fruit weight, juiciness, and presence.

Technical Details

Vineyards: Bungamero Vineyard, Whorouly South
Ferraro Vineyard, Myrtleford
Region: Alpine Valleys
Winemaker: Glenn James, Melissa Fettke and Jo Marsh

Review

Lives up to its name with a wild herbal, rustic vibe cruising between some pretty delicious red and dark fruits. Pockets of spice and earth enliven the palate, and the effect is mighty drinkable. Is that firm, dry tannic finish a nod to where the grape originates? Maybe.

94 points, Halliday Wine Companion, Jeni Port

