RIDGE OF TEARS

2019 MUDGEE SHIRAZ (564M)

VINEYARD

The Shiraz grapes for this dry red were harvested at 13.2° Baumé on the 19th February 2019 from 23 year old vines planted in shallow, red-brown ironstone and quartz gravelly loam soils on a north-east facing slope in Mudgee, New South Wales.

The vineyard sits at an altitude of 564 metres above sea level and experiences mild days and cool nights with high UV radiation and plenty of sunshine.

The 2019 growing season was warm and very dry in the NSW Central Ranges, however enough well-spaced rain events across the season allowed the grapes to progress through to ripeness without suffering undue stress. These conditions resulted in a compact harvest period with clean fruit and yields per vine a little lower than average. Ripeness occurred at low sugar levels resulting in generally low alcohol in the wines.

The vines have been trained on a Vertical Shoot Position (VSP) trellis system.

WINEMAKING

Fermentation was in a small concrete open fermenter which was plunged by hand twice per day. 10% of the ferment was whole bunches. After the 7 day fermentation the wine remained on skins for 1 week before being basket pressed to French oak barrels (225L, 300L and 500L) where it underwent malo-lactic fermentation and 15 months maturation. The oak was a combination of new to 5 year old barrels.

TASTING NOTES

The Ridge of Tears 2019 Mudgee Shiraz is crimson red in colour. The complex aroma mixes woody spices like clove, cinnamon and thyme with red and black berries, tobacco and leather. The medium bodied palate has dark cherry, blood plum, fennel seed and fresh earth characters before a long finish.

ANALYSIS	
Alcohol	13.5%
Titratable acidity	5.4g/L
рH	3.67
Residual sugar	1.2g/L





