

ROCKFORD



BAROSSA

"I have always lived in and feel most comfortable with the warm Mediterranean climate of the Barossa where grapes ripen easily. My preference is to make the wine by hand with traditional methods, attitude and equipment to produce rich, earthy, soft, generous wines that will age; the kind that I drank in my youth."

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert O'Callaghan'.

Robert O'Callaghan

WHITE WINE

2019 Eden Valley Riesling

Sold Out

The Eden Valley, high in the Barossa Ranges, is punctuated by ancient Red Gums. The vineyards growing in this shallow, rocky soil produce fine flavoured Riesling with a mineral purity that comes from the vine roots pushing through cracks in submerged rock in search of water and scarce nutrient. We are committed to releasing this wine with the complexity, palate weight and softness that can only come from holding it in our cellar for a year or two before release.

Local Growers Semillon

2020 release is in progress

This wine faithfully reflects the contribution made by the Sibley and Kalleske families to Rockford and the Barossa. Their knowledge, tenacity and commitment to the land ensure Semillon - a pioneer Barossa variety - has a viable future. Because the fruit is hand-picked, we can select bunches at different stages of ripeness. The early-picked fruit adds acidity while the later-season fruit contributes riper, fruitier components. The wine matured in barrel and the combination of different sized oak casks, when finally blended, come together to make a complex, textured, and mouth-filling wine.

2021 White Frontignac

\$22.00 bottle \$264.00 dozen

The versatility of this original Barossa variety has seen it survive over one hundred years of economic boom and bust. White Frontignac is the earliest variety we harvest each year. In the vineyard, as berries gradually ripen on the vine, they taste of crunchy new-season green apples and this flavour carries through to the finished wine. The result of picking early is a fresh, low alcohol wine, with floral Muscat aromatics on the nose and a balanced palate with crisp acidity and a clean finish.

RED WINE

2021 Alicante Bouchet

\$24.50 bottle \$294.00 dozen

The exception to the rule! Alicante is genetically linked to the hardy pioneer variety of Grenache, so it too is well-adapted to our warm Mediterranean climate. Because the flesh of this distinctive variety is bright red in colour, there's no need for the skins and juice to sit together to extract the colour and flavour before pressing. Alicante is a variety which ripens with full flavour at low sugar levels, making an aromatic light red wine.

Frugal Farmer

2021 release is in progress

Grenache/Mataro/Alicante Bouschet

When we make our Alicante Bouchet each vintage the skin of the grapes are not needed. Instead, we co-ferment them with early picked Grenache and Mataro to make our Frugal Farmer. The addition of the Alicante skins to the ferment gives tannin, spice and a vibrant garnet colour to the wine. We think this resourcefulness would get a quiet nod from the early Barossa pioneer families and you get a light-bodied, lower alcohol, wine to enjoy. Win-win!

2017 Moppa Springs

\$32.00 bottle \$384.00 dozen

Grenache/Mataro/Shiraz

This wine highlights the suitability of Grenache, Mataro and Shiraz to some of the driest regions in the Barossa. The fruit is forked into our 1880's wooden Bagshaw de-stemmer before fermenting in open slate tanks. Our 1890's Robinson Basket Press slowly squeezes the remaining juice from the grapes, before the individual components are left to mature in seasoned oak casks. When the final blend comes together, layers of soft, savoury, spicy flavours are emerging and will continue to develop with a handful more years in bottle.

More wines over the page ...

RED WINE

2018 Rod & Spur

\$43.00 bottle **\$516.00** dozen

Shiraz/Cabernet Sauvignon

Blending of Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon ensures the great Australian red wine style of the 1950's and 60's is not lost. Early Australian winemakers began to forge their own paths by blending varieties that had not traditionally been found together. The splicing of two great things doesn't always produce something better. But, in some cases, the alchemy of winemaking weaves its magic to create a wine more interesting and complex than the separate components. We've named this wine in acknowledgement of our grape growers who spend the cold Barossa winters hand pruning in the traditional rod and spur method.

2017 Basket Press Shiraz

\$75.00 bottle **\$225.00** 3 bottles

This wine is made from specially selected small parcels of established Barossa Shiraz from some of the Barossa's finest grape growing families. The vineyards are situated in different sub-regions throughout the Barossa, which adds to the complexity and depth of the final blend. The wine is hand-made using equipment from the turn of the last century, then matured in seasoned American and French oak casks for two years. All this contributes to our objective to make the very highest quality traditional, soft, deeply-coloured, earthy Australian red wine which will bottle age.

2018 Rifle Range Cabernet

Released 1st October 2021

Cabernet Sauvignon has been planted in the Barossa since at least 1888. The warm climate here means Barossa Cabernet wines are rich and full-flavoured. The fruit for our Cabernet Sauvignon comes predominantly from vineyards along Rifle Range Road, just behind our winery. The 'Biscay' soil of the Rifle Range vineyards is heavy, black, cracking clay, lending the wine its rich and earthy character. It is a generous wine when young, but will really show its best if given a chance to mature in the bottle a little longer.

Sparkling Black Shiraz

Released 1st November 2021

Disgorged 2021

Our Sparkling Black Shiraz uses the time-honoured method of ageing quality Shiraz in oak casks for many years prior to blending and bottle fermentation. The result is softness, depth and complex flavours that are impossible to duplicate in young wines.

FORTIFIED WINE

2016 Shiraz VP 500mL

\$61.00 bottle **\$366.00** 6 bottles

This wine is made from a special corner of the Hampel Family Shiraz vineyard, a handful of vines which ripen late in the season. The fermenting juice was fortified with a twenty-four-year old, wood aged brandy spirit before being bottled and aged in our Cellar. Over time it will develop greater complexity, so if you can keep this wine for a handful more years your patience will be richly rewarded. Share it with someone special.

PS Marion Tawny

\$44.00 bottle **\$264.00** 6 bottles

This wine is a small contribution to the Barossa's great tradition of producing outstanding, aged fortified wines. The many years we allow the wine to mature in seasoned, small oak casks encourages the flavours to slowly concentrate and develop into a rich, complex and spicy Barossa Tawny. If you look up while standing in Cellar Door, you'll see the casks of quietly aging Tawny, waiting to one day make their way into the base blend and be put in the bottle for you.

The PS Marion Tawny is released as part of our long-term support of the Paddle Steamer Marion, built in 1897 and now moored in Mannum. Every sip of this wine helps put steam back into the boiler of one of the finest ships that ever plied the waters of the magnificent Murray River.

