



Little Giant Merlot 2021

Grape Variety: 100% Merlot

Region: Adelaide Hills

Winemaker: Corey Ryan

Closure: Screwcap

Alcohol: 14%

Pack Size: 6 Bottle Pack

Summary: The southern hairy-nose wombat is smaller than other wombats but is stocky, robust and the proud state emblem of South Australia. Like the might of the little wombat, Little Giant is crafted from premium regional South Australian fruit from established vineyards that deliver character and interest well above their size and weight.

Hand-crafted and made with minimal additions and preservatives, these are wines made of the vineyard. The grapes are picked at optimal ripeness, minimally handled in the winery and fruit vibrancy is not hidden by non-essential artifact. Seeking first and foremost fruit expression, drinkability and to be a great accompaniment to food. Don't let the size fool you, these are wines you'll want to drink.

Winemaking: Single estate fruit was picked in the cool of the morning to retain freshness, the fruit is de-stemmed and fermented in open top fermenters. The wine then spent six months in 10% new French oak barrels and the rest in older oak. This helped build structure whilst softening the palate and develop flavour complexity without overt extraction of oak characters.

2021 Vintage: 2021 was an outstanding vintage for the Adelaide Hills and it came as a welcome relief after the appalling conditions of the previous year. A cool, wet spring helped with soil moisture followed by a warm November ensuring no damaging weather conditions. Cool and calm weather followed that meant even ripening and good acid retention. A mild end to summer and a cool Autumn saw fruit hanging with no disease or extreme heat posing a problem. Yields and quality were up across the board.

Tasting Note: As with all Little Giant releases this presents a fresh, full flavoured Merlot that delivers a medium bodied palate that's smooth and irresistible. Dark garnet in colour, it presents red fruit compote aromas with dried herb nuances. Enticing ripe berries on the palate with flavours of dark plum, cooking spices and some integrated French Oak. It's Long on the finish with bags of intense flavour and finishes dry with clean acidity. Pair with barbecued lamb.