

Swinney 'Farvie' Frankland River Grenache

2018 Vintage

Just tasted one of the most remarkable new portfolio releases of the year. The 2018 reds and 2019 Riesling are all sensational, and the 2018 Farvie (Grenache), set for release in 2020, is one of the most remarkable and exquisite wines made from this great grape that I have ever tasted. Winemaker Rob Mann's return to WA has collided with Matt Swinney's amazing viticulture and the results are breathtaking.

Matthew Jukes, @matthewwjukes,
UK Wine Journalist, Sep 2019

2019 Vintage

The initial release of this wine drew global attention to sleepy Frankland River. This follow up not only lives up to expectations but expands them. It's grenache with grit, a sublime entwining of the variety's red berry perfume with the often elusive granitic grip that defines the greats. Already comfortable among the best examples of this variety on a global scale.

Nick Ryan, March 2021
The Australian

2019 Vintage

What a follow-up to the remarkable 2018 debut. The high perfumed notes strike immediately and almost define what is to follow. It's a very pretty wine with more seductive perfumed notes than the 2018, most likely a result of the slightly cooler vintage. There is about 12 per cent mourvedre in the blend and all the fruit comes off the Swinney bush vines. Only large-format seasoned oak has been used. A striking wine of refinement and power that delivers with an effortless deft touch. This is a modern grenache with a distinctive Frankland stamp. **98pts**

Ray Jordan, Feb 2021
The West Australian



2020 Vintage

The combination of subtle floral perfumes and more rustic slightly herb and ferrous aromas is engaging. The mouthfeel and palate take this wine into a heady zone with the chalky mouthfeel and fruit intensity working harmoniously. There is a distinct ferrous ironstone character with that slightly wild influence that comes from the small amount of naturally fermented mourvedre. Tasted over three days and each time it revealed something new and exciting. It is rare to see a genre redefined, yet here it is. **99pts**

Ray Jordan, Feb 2022
The West Australian

Swinney
'Farvie'
Frankland River
Syrah

2018 Vintage

A jaw-dropping, ground-breaking syrah. This is not the sweet fruit Aussie shiraz or syrah but more a savoury, grainy style more associated with the Rhone in France. Fine, firm tannins run deep and the oak has been expertly and subtly applied. But it is the way the fruit expresses that strikes as different and exciting. **98 pts**

Ray Jordan, The West Australian, Nov 2019

2018 Vintage

The colour is an outrageous deep magenta hue, promising the world. The nose is a little restrained at this stage, but is showing sarsaparilla, mulberry, black pepper, raspberry and tight, lightly spiced French oak. The palate gives everything the nose promises and more – the tannins working to lengthen and extend the already elegant and focused fruit. This is super fine, concentrated, long and powerful; the 55% whole-bunch lending an extra layer of spice and texture. The acidity is perfectly balanced with the exuberance of the fruit, and in combination with the masterful handling of tannins, this wine is weightlessly suspended in perfect tension. Deeper and darker than the grenache, and impossible to pit above or below. An astoundingly alluring pair of wines, and an authoritative first release. **98 pts**

Erin Larkin - Wine critic, November 2019

2019 Vintage

Hand picked from a single parcel of 22yo syrah vines. Berries sorted and gravity-fed to a French oak vat (1600L) and 22 demi-muids. 54% whole bunches, wild ferment. Bacon fat, maple, salted pomegranate, raspberry, graphite, red dirt, mulberry and pink peppercorn. Like the Hokusai wave, this crashes and courses with flavours and textures, ebbing and flowing on the palate. This is balanced, restrained, long, powerful and most importantly, shaped and structured by supple, chewy tannins. They hold the fruit in the cups of their hands and usher it through a very long finish. A weightlessly poetic wine. **98pts**

James Halliday Wine Companion, August 2021



2020 Vintage

This is a Syrah that will make the wine world sit-up and think what is possible for this variety in Frankland River. It has an incredibly deep and dense colour, and once again that regional ironstone, ferruginous character comes through. There's an inky pepperiness with a subtle liqueured prune character and dark chocolate notes, albeit slightly understated. The texture and brightness of the palate is a feature. It is also a wine that is unafraid to show its tannins. Winemaker Rob Mann says it is inspired a lot by what is drunk in Europe. He has adopted a similar oak regime to the Grenache and makes it in a reductive way so there is no pumping over. The whole bunches and berries go into upright older oak vats where it is left achieving a slightly carbonic style. Of course, all this is possible because of the fastidious approach adopted by owner Matt Swinney in the vineyard where the search is for the best bunches on the vines. It's an obsessive and uncompromising approach which yields just 3 tonnes to the hectare. A wine that redefines Syrah in much the same way the Grenache has redefined that variety. **98 pts**

Ray Jordan, www.winepilot.com, March 2022