CORIOLE
McLAREN VALE

2022 SPARTA SHIRAZ

Sparta is from our Galaxidia vineyard, planted in 1998, and surrounded by olive trees. The original owners of this vineyard came from the countryside surrounding Sparta, an area much loved by Coriole founder Mary 'Molly' Lloyd. The soils are Terra Rossa – red brown earth over limestone.

Tasting notes
This is a classic McLaren Vale shiraz. A complex nose of dark fruits, violet, mocha and blackberry bramble. A plush palate offering up a bounty of forest fruits, fresh plum, subtle spice and vanilla bean. The Sparta is a fruit driven Shiraz made to enjoy in its youth through will cellar well. Tannins are soft and approachable with great fruit length.

Serving suggestion
Think Greek cuisine with this wine... slow roasted lamb shoulder generously studded with rosemary, garlic and lemon. Serve it with torn pita, chargrilled vegetables and lashings of garlic sauce.

Winemaker says
Our Sparta Vineyard is the only Coriole vineyard to face due north and produces a vibrant red fruited and rich style of shiraz. It is largely planted with a very old shiraz clone called the 'Bob Hardy'. Sparta is made to highlight the fruit and floral notes of McLaren Vale shiraz with good density and medium structure.

Technical notes
Region (GI): 100% McLaren Vale
Varietal comp: 100% Shiraz
Alcohol: 14.5%
Total acidity: 5.95 g/L
pH: 3.66
GF: 0.4 g/L

2022 vintage
At Coriole, the 2022 vintage had similar beginnings to the fantastic 2021 vintage, with healthy rainfall through the preceding winter and early spring. Whilst we were in La Niña conditions we had a relatively dry November and December with cooler temperatures. There was a resultant yield loss in several varieties due to poor fruit set, affecting quantity but not quality. We continued into the new year with cooler than average conditions with no extreme heat events allowing even ripening and delaying harvest until late February. Sangiovese looked excellent coming off the vine with great fruit condition and concentrated flavours.