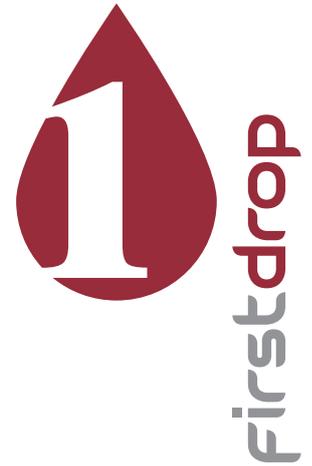


# HALF & HALF

2012 Barossa Shiraz Monastrell

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## Grab

Full flavoured, with texture and a splash of funk. A wine to drink, not just appreciate. Bottoms up!

## Spiel

First Drop is about life, flavour and fun. A story of two friends with Old World roots in a New World of opportunity. The booze is crafted with a flair for creativity; a twist of innovation and a sensitivity for tradition. This approach is embodied in this wine, a 50:50 blend of Old and New – it's full flavoured, with texture and a splash of funk.

A wine to drink, not just appreciate. Bottoms up!

## Colour

Garnet red with purple hues

## Bouquet

A complex nose of cherry, violet, earth and spice aromas and hints of chocolate

## Palate

A wide, textured palate of grainy tannins support cherry, earthy, savoury flavours and an explosion of spice - sumac, clove, Asian 5 spice, Szechuan pepper

## Grub Match

Cassoulet, lamb chops, stuffed tomatoes

## Cellaring

Drink up, but also a 5-8 year proposition.

## Vintage

A tale of hope and glory. Good rains throughout much of 2011 setup vineyards with good soil and vine health going into the growing season. Warmer and drier conditions through October and November followed, which led to strong and healthy shoot growth, and by December, below average crops were evident due to less and smaller bunches. We were full of hope. January and February were characteristically dry, but continued the trend of below-average temperatures. There was a rain event in early March, however it didn't cause any disease issues, and actually refreshed many vineyards and allowed them to ripen steadily. Not surprisingly the cool ripening conditions delivered fruit with intense aromas and flavours, and allowed every site to show its full potential and individuality in the resulting wines. 2012 was a privileged vintage. After the mother of all harvests the previous year, we were rewarded with outstanding quality across all varieties, whilst working with old friends (TSW and JP) in our new 'Home of the Brave' winery.

It will sit among the greatest vintages, perhaps the most glorious! Truly blessed and thankful.

## Vineyard

Michael's vineyard is just south of Rosedale in the south west of the Barossa – 300m above sea level on red brown clays with shale

David's vineyard is in the north east of the Barossa up at Moculta in Eden Valley – 330m above sea level on clay over ironstone

Joel's vineyard is in the east of the Barossa up at Wilton in Eden Valley – 550m above sea level on clay over ironstone and quartz

## Vinification

The fruit is crushed/destemmed and fermented at temperatures ranging from 20- 25°C for 12 days on skins. The ferment is managed by a variety of techniques, including 'aerative pump overs' and 'drain and returns' which assist in extracting colour, flavour and tannin from the grapes. At the end of fermentation, it is drained/pressed, and transferred to 10% new French oak hogsheads, and the balance 3 and 4 year old French oak hogsheads to undergo MLF. Post MLF, sulphur dioxide is added, and the wines mature sur lie for 15 months. Assemblage takes place at the end of this maturation period. This wine was bottled unfiltered in July 2013.

