

# PIKES

CLARE VALLEY

Established 1984

## 2023 'RISING GROUND' CABERNET FRANC

### WINEMAKER'S NOTE

Good winter rain allowed soil profiles to be full, giving the vines a great start to the growing season. A remarkably cool summer followed, providing perfect conditions for healthy balanced vines. The long ripening period produced fruit with a perfect balance of good colour, high natural acidity, and concentrated flavours.

The aromatic nature of this variety has shaped our approach to embrace the spice and perfume characteristics of the wine. We use spontaneous fermentation and gentle cap management using compressed air to protect these qualities.

### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

**Fruit Source:** Estate Grown and Growers fruit

**Variety:** Cabernet Franc

**Vintage:** 2023

**Region:** Polish Hill River & Mintaro, Clare Valley

**Fermentation:** Wild ferment, closed fermenters

**Maturation:** 9 months in seasoned French barrique and stainless steel.

**Alc/Vol** 13%

**pH** 3.40      **TA** 6.05 g/L

### ABOUT PIKES

Pikes Wines is grounded by family. From brothers to sons, since 1984 when the Pike family first stepped foot on Polish Hill River soil and decided to make wine together.

Our site is unique, with tough acidic soils overlaying ancient dark grey siltstone of the Kadlunga Slate formation, which has lay beneath Polish Hill River for 650 million years.

Our wine style is elegant and refined, yet approachable. A style that has been forged over many years by geology and geography, viticultural learnings, and a hands-off winemaking approach.

### Pikes Tasting Room

233 Polish Hill Road, Sevenhill, South Australia 5453

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Tasting Room: open daily, from 10am - 4pm

Slate Restaurant: Lunch from 12pm Thu - Sun, Dinner from 6pm Sat

### TASTING NOTES

**Appearance:** Medium cherry red.

**Aroma:** Lifted currants, both red and black at first, and then cranberry later with crushed florals and black spices unfurling over time.

**Palate:** Beautifully medium weighted with more bright red fruits and pomegranate mingling with richer, poached rhubarb and some black olive, all seasoned with baking spices. Fine grained, but neatly woven tannins partnered with some typical Polish Hill River fresh acidity provides a lovely glide across the palate building into a long finish.

**Summary:** Cabernet Franc is an unsung hero in the Clare Valley, a largely silent contributor to many of the Region's best Cabernets. This release of the "Rising Ground" is a wonderful example of the variety and really shows 'Cab Franc' as a worthy variety in its own right. Drink upon release or within the next 6 years. Try with Moroccan spiced slow-cooked lamb.

