

# HATCH



**I**t may be only a small production, but this is a release of considerable significance. After a long and distinguished career on the big side of the business, Chris Hatcher has founded his own label, focused squarely on the high quality end of the market.

It's clear from this tasting that Chris not only pursues excellence, he is determined that his four wines are clear expressions of place and time.

**2023 Hatch Flaxman's Eden Valley Riesling** Delightfully floral, with a twist of lime. This is an intense, precisely poised riesling that is long and racy. Near perfection. (\$32.00) ★★★★★

**2023 Hatch Watervale Clare Valley Riesling** The powerful, fresh limey aromatics are true to geographic origin, as is the intense, dry palate with its steely acid finish. (\$32.00) ★★★★★☆

I can't think of two better wines to demonstrate the stylistic differences between Australia's two great riesling regions.

**2022 Hatch St John's Barossa Shiraz** The bright purple colour makes a strong visual impact. Although it would have benefited from another year in bottle before release, this blackberry-scented gem is a winner. Classy oak shows at the moment, but it will fold in with time, and the tannins are delightfully fine. (\$52.00) ★★★★★☆

**2022 Hatch Vesey McLaren Vale Shiraz** The rich, fresh mulberry and plum characteristics carry the faintly toasty oak with ease. The tannins are mouth-coating, but fine and balanced. This is an exemplary McLaren Vale shiraz of considerable opulence. (\$52.00) ★★★★★

<https://hatchwines.com.au/>

Lester Jesberg

**If you're not a Winewise subscriber, please join us. (Only \$35 per year) <http://winewise.net.au/>**