

# AMATOVINO

## 2016 Bela


(aka Slankamenka Bela)

Slankamenka Bela, an ancient Balkans grape variety found flourishing in the Riverland of Australia. Or Bela for short..

Hand-picked Slankamenka Bela grapes, wild-fermented in stainless steel, maintaining regular soft lees stirring for complexity. Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered.

Greeted by a pungent potpourri of dried fennel, hemp, curry leaf lavender, you will be seduced by this exotic variety. On the fruit spectrum think rockmelon and nectarine. The palate is savoury, with tangy grapefruit, guava, kiwifruit, honeydew melon and Australian smokebush. A maritime thread, saline, minerally, with a soft talc-like texture.

Enjoy with or without food.

 Chargrilled veges, antipasto, seafood, salads or a cheese board.

## Technical Information

Harvest:	March 3rd, 2016
Fermentation/ Maturation:	Wild ferment in stainless steel tank, aged on lees for 3 months
Bottled:	Unfiltered, unfiltered, July 2016
Ingredients:	Slankamenka Bela grapes, Sulphur Dioxide (preservative)
Alcohol:	12.8%
Production:	145 dozen
Location:	Ricca Terra Farms, single vineyard – Barmera, South Australia
Soil:	Red earth over limestone
Elevation:	100m
Density:	1666/Ha
Planted:	2010
Rainfall:	200mm
Region:	Riverland

## Awards and Accolades

### **James Halliday, Wine Companion 2018 Jane Faulkner**

*The second instalment made from the Balkan variety slankameka bela. Wild ferment in stainless steel, on lees 3 months, so it's ever-so-slightly cloudy. It's salty, tastes of preserved lemon and daikon. It has texture, neat phenolics and is mouth-watering fresh.*



## Background

An ancient Balkans variety found scattered throughout modern-day Serbia. Little is known of this variety in Australia. In fact, up until bottling the 2015 vintage we believed we had Grillo, a variety of Sicilian origin. The resulting wine looked fantastic, but it didn't resemble Grillo as we knew it, so we decided to DNA test the variety for clarification. The result – Slankamenka Bela – unsurprisingly a variety none of us had even heard of. But! The wine was exotic and interesting and good, so we decided to push ahead and release the first Slankamenka Bela in Australia, or so we think...!