

# Elderton

from James Halliday Australian Wine Companion 2016



Elderton has again been awarded five red stars by James Halliday, signifying Elderton is an, "Outstanding winery regularly producing wines of exemplary quality and typicity."

## 2012 Command Shiraz

97 points

Single Vineyard Shiraz

Available March 2016

From a vineyard planted in 1894, picked in five small parcels over 4 weeks; part fermented in open fermenters, part concluding its fermentation in new American and French puncheons. Command indeed; elegant, but brooking no argument, the X-factor of the fruit at once obvious, yet undefinable; certain it is that its balance and depth are beyond approach, the oak and tannins seamlessly stitched through the fruit and length of the palate.



## 2013 Ashmead Cabernet Sauvignon

97 points

Single Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon

Available March 2016

From 70yo vines, hand-picked, open-fermented, matured for 18 months in French oak. The quality of the fruit shines through with absolute varietal conviction, bringing cassis onto centre stage, quality oak and well managed tannins the last touches.

## 2013 Neil Ashmead Grand Tourer Shiraz

95 points

Future Release

From a 50yo single estate block; open-fermented in wax-lined vats; finished fermentation in new French hogsheads, held on gross lees for 15 months. Made in a very different idiom to the other '13 Elderton Shirazs, lighter in colour, body and red fruit profile. It all works to provide a thoroughly elegant wine.





## 2012 Ode to Lorraine

95 points

Cabernet Sauvignon / Shiraz / Merlot

A 58/31/11% blend from vines planted between 1914 and '98, mature for 24 months in French and American oak. Focused winemaking has corralled all the disparate parcels onto an elegant, medium-bodied palate, with a gently savoury lining to the predominantly purple and black fruits.

## 2013 Western Ridge

95 points

Grenache Carignan

SOLD OUT

The Helbig Vineyard was acquired in '10, and included the grenache (planted '69) and carignan (planted 1915). The light, clear colour reflects the varietal make-up, the moderate alcohol (in the grenache field normally 15-16.5%) reflects an elegant wine that leaves no doubt about its varietal foundations, and is a pleasure to drink right now.



## 2013 Estate Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon

95 points

Future Release

Estate-grown vines 35-50yo; matured for 22 months in French hogsheads. Quite apart from the rarity of cabernet vines of this age, the viticultural skill in managing growth through to picking at this baume/alcohol level is the cornerstone for a strongly varietal cabernet treated with utmost respect in the winery

## 2012 High Altitude Barossa Shiraz

95 points

Barossa is the Zone, Eden Valley the region; matured in used French and American oak for 12 months, the lovely fruit expression on the medium-bodied palate explains why Elderton purchased this vineyard. The wine literally caresses the mouth, the flavours of plum, red and black cherry running through to the finish and aftertaste, tannins and oak barely visible.





## 2013 Greenock One

94 points

Shiraz

From vines 20-35yo; open-fermented with header boards for 8 days then pressed to new and used French and American puncheons to finish fermentation and maturation for 15 months. Strong colour, and an equally strong statement of place, with black fruits shutting the door on any other contenders, but not the ripe tannins that provide balance and length. Time to grow.

## 2013 Greenock Two

94 points

Shiraz Mourvedre Grenache

A 49/41/10% blend, open-fermented, the shiraz first, the mourvedre and grenache co-fermented and ultimately blended, matured in used French oak. Well conceived and well executed; juicy fruits swirl around on the palate, covering the red/purple/black spectrum. The moderate alcohol and overall style has reflections of Ashmead Grand Tourer.



## 2013 Estate Barossa Shiraz

94 points

Open-fermented in waxed concrete vats with header boards, matured in American puncheons for 22 months. Full-bodied, but doesn't lose balance; black fruits have soaked up such of the new oak (if any) as was used, the end result generous complexity.

## 2014 High Altitude Cabernet Sauvignon

94 points

Future Release

Matured for 9 or 15 months in used French oak (two versions from Elderton). Either way, this is a very useful cabernet, its freshness preserved by its good natural acidity (a corollary of the modest alcohol), cassis thus an integral part of the wine, the tannins fine but important.



## 2014 Eden Valley Riesling

94 points

SOLD OUT

The vineyard is in the heart of the region, and it is no surprise the flowery, citrus blossom bouquet and tightly focused palate should be in mainstream Eden Valley style; it has very good balance and length that will underpin its leisurely development over the next 10 years.