

2019 Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon

History

The Ashmead family purchased their first estate vineyard in the middle of Nuriootpa in the late 1970s and since making their first wine from the 1982 vintage, have developed a great reputation and an enviable history of success. The 1992 Cabernet Sauvignon won the prestigious Jimmy Watson Memorial Trophy in 1993, showcasing Elderton's ability to make great Cabernet. Second generation brothers, Cameron and Allister, have since purchased two other exceptional vineyards in the east and west of the Barossa, with fruit from all three vineyards blended to make this 2019 Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon.

Vineyard Information

Our 2019 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon comes from various plantings off our three vineyard sites. In Greenock we have some very low yielding Cabernet planted in 1965. We rely on fruit from Nuriootpa for structure and weight, with richer ripe characters of red fruit and cassis. Our Craneford vineyard at slightly higher elevation and a cooler edge adds fragrance and perfume to the blend. These vineyards ripen differently, owing to their varying aspects, elevation and soil types. Winter 2018 was relatively dry and so created opportunity for frost. Fortunately this was not the case for Cabernet Sauvignon being a later variety for both bud burst and maturity. This dry beginning did lead to a very dry growing season.

Winemaker's Comments

Our 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon is one of a kind. Our vineyard team were kept busy on a tight watering regime, measuring out the small allocation as carefully as possible through the very dry summer of 2019. In a normal year Cabernet Sauvignon berries are small, and 2019 was no exception. Careful cap management in fermentation has helped to ensure we have retained colour and perfume and a lovely fruit weight with enough tannin to balance, without overwhelming the palate. Our Craneford Vineyard plays an important role in this wine as 51% of the final blend, with slightly more mild conditions bringing fresh and fragrant notes. Our Cabernet is pressed from open fermenter to a combination of new and seasoned French oak for malolactic fermentation and further maturation for the following year. We carefully blend our Cabernet from our three sites to achieve the best balance.

- Jules Ashmead & Brock Harrison

Style	Plush, elegant, classic
Colour	Deep crimson
Aroma	Fresh chocolate, intense black forest fruits, licorice, subtle mint leaf
Palate	Generous ripe cassis, blackberry, milk chocolate with hints of dried herbs. Deft use of oak supports the fruit up front, with mouth coating tannins that lengthen the finish.
Cellaring	Drink now or cellar confidently for 10 - 15 years from vintage



Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon 2019

Vineyard Source Estate grown, 51% Craneford, 27% Greenock, 22% Nuriootpa

Vine Age 19 - 54 years

Picking Date 15 - 28 March 2019

Oak Predominantly older French hogsheads and puncheons, 24 months

Alc/Vol 14.2%