

2020 **Ashmead** Cabernet Sauvignon

Limited release of 759 bottles

History

Like the Command block, which is an amazing resource to the Elderton estate, the Ashmead block has consistently produced small parcels of excellent quality fruit. The vineyard was almost destroyed in 1997 to make way for higher yielding vines, however the family made the decision to promote the vineyard to a higher destiny – thus the Ashmead.

The 2020 is the twentieth release of this unparalleled wine, and is a superior example of Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon. Elderton is not unfamiliar with premium Cabernet, having won more than 8 trophies for this varietal including the 1993 Jimmy Watson Trophy.

Vineyard Information

Estate grown on the Nuriootpa vineyard, the fruit is sourced from a single block planted circa 1944. Deep alluvial silt over red and brown earths and limestone near the banks of the North Para River allow the vines to grow deep roots and the vines therefore need minimal irrigation.

Vineyard Source 100% Estate grown, Nuriootpa

Vine Age 76 years

Picking date 1 April 2020

Winemakers' Comments

2020 will be remembered as one of the lowest yielding vintages in history. With tricky conditions during flowering and fruit set, our vines, although with ample canopy, were carrying a very small crop. The long and dry ripening period that followed ensured perfect ripening conditions leading to harvest.

The 2020 Ashmead was hand-picked and destemmed to ferment in one of our smallest open fermenters. Careful cap management used both plunging and pumpovers for just under two weeks ensured a slow and full extraction of flavour and tannin. The pressed wine went straight to a couple of French oak barrels for malolactic fermentation followed by further maturation.

- Jules Ashmead & Brock Harrison

Style	Vibrant, classic, bold
Colour	Deep crimson
Aroma	Dark chocolate layered with cassis
Palate	Delicate blackberry fruit with layers of chocolate and a touch of dried herb. The tannins are generous and long, with hints of Kirsch giving length and power to the finish.
Oak	18 months in new French oak hogsheads and puncheons
Cellaring	Drink now or cellar confidently for 15 - 20 years from vintage
Alc/vol	14.2%

