

*G. Alderton*

# HELBIG 1915

## 2021 SHIRAZ

A single vineyard selection of truly remarkable Shiraz that was planted by the Helbig family in 1915. This vineyard is located on the western ridge of the famous Barossa Valley and has been a highly sought after parcel for many of the Barossa's leading winemakers. Luckily for the Ashmead family, we were able to acquire this vineyard in 2010, forever ending the race to get this amazing fruit.

### DETAILS

Vineyard	Greenock, single vineyard block planted in 1915, sandy loam soil
Harvest date	11 March 2021
Production	691 bottles
Style	Rich and stylish
Colour	Dense, dark purple
Aroma	Brooding dark red fruits with spiced oak overtones
Palate	Vibrant berry fruits laced with hints of dark chocolate. Velvety presence with seamless long tannins to balance and a purity of fruit that shines through to the finish.
Alc/vol	15.8%
Cellaring	15+ years from vintage, given good cellaring conditions

### WINEMAKER COMMENTS

After some tricky vintages with heat and frost in 2019 and 2020, the spring leading into 2021 came with ample rainfall and relatively normal conditions. Our cane pruned Helbig is watched carefully and thinned as required once fruit has set. We rarely need extra water to keep this patch going, owing to the deep roots in sandy loam over red clay.

Harvest decisions in 2021 were easy, with no threat of rain or any disease pressure. The pristine fruit was hand-picked in the morning. Destemmed fruit was cold soaked and fermented in new oak puncheons with heads knocked out over 2 weeks before pressing to oak for malolactic fermentation and extended time on lees. We find the lees help the wine to integrate with such bold tannins. This process also helps to blend the new oak in with the bold fruit profile.

We are super excited about our 2021 Helbig - it is the result of a stunning vintage. Happy and healthy vines in perfect growing conditions deliver wine of this calibre only in the very best vintages, making our job as grapegrowers and winemakers easy!

- Jules Ashmead & Brock Harrison

