

2022 Ashmead Cabernet Sauvignon

History

It may be just a tiny little parcel of Cabernet planted in the 1940s, however what a powerful little flavour packed expression it is! The Ashmead block has consistently produced small parcels of excellent quality fruit for several years. The block 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 2022 is the 22nd release of this delicious Old Vine Barossa Valley 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 78 years

Picking date 13 April 2022

Winemakers' Comments

2022 kept us on our toes! After an easy ride with the 2021 vintage, 2022 was very mild with the threat of rainy patches which can sometimes mean the season will turn early. Cabernet Sauvignon, as a late ripening variety, does best in the years with a dry end to vintage and fortunately in 2022 the rain held off to allow us to make a cracking version of Ashmead for 2022.

After hand picking, our destemmed Ashmead parcel spent a week in an open fermenter with gentle cap management prior to pressing and then maturation in both new and seasoned French oak to support the fruit and help build the structure of this wine, without adding too much oak impact.

- Jules Ashmead & Brock Harrison

Style Classic, elegant

Colour Deep crimson

Aroma Complex! Red fruits and brooding chocolate

Palate There is a restraint to this vintage, almost a sleeping giant. A power of blackberry and hints of cinnamon and dark chocolate to match, the finish is long, with a freshness of wooded berry notes dancing alongside the silky tannins.

Oak 18 months in mostly new French oak puncheons

Cellaring Drink now or cellar confidently for 15 - 20 years from vintage

Alc/vol 14.9%

