



# THE BASTION SHIRAZ

The Bastion Shiraz is a pure expression of our unique McLaren Vale site - an ethereal wine of both poise and power. After spending nearly two years in French oak barrels it has developed considerable complexity with a tantalising balance of opulent fruit and savoury notes. Heady aromas of dark blackberry and chocolate are underpinned by subtle mocha, violet and earthy characters, along with structured, fine-grained tannins and a good lick of vanilla oak. Enjoy now or, if you can bear to wait, for many years to come.

VARIETAL: Shiraz

VINTAGE: 2018

REGION: McLaren Vale

ALC/VOL: 14.5%

VEGAN: Yes

WINEMAKER: Renae Hirsch

## THE VINEYARD

Fruit for The Bastion is sourced from a single block on our stunning 64 acre vineyard, located in the southern foothills of the McLaren Vale region. Its unique position, just 2km away from the coast of the Gulf St Vincent, allows the vines to benefit from a maritime climate with cooling afternoon sea breezes coming in from the south-west. These breezes prevent our fruit from over-ripening and help us to produce elegant wines that balance rich primary fruit flavours with the characteristic earthiness and minerality associated with the region.

## WINEMAKING NOTES

The Bastion is made using traditional, labour-intensive methods. The 2018 Shiraz was matured for a period of 20 months in fine-grained French oak barrels (20% new) prior to blending and bottling. The wine is neither fined nor filtered so that the integrity and unique flavour profile of the Shiraz may shine through.

## VINTAGE OVERVIEW

Good winter rainfall started the season well and led into a relatively dry summer and autumn creating very little disease pressure in the vineyards. Warm conditions in late January and early February sped up ripening, but moderate temperatures in mid-Feb slowed it back down and allowed the flavours to catch up. A couple of warmer weather bursts in late February and early March finished the Shiraz ripening off nicely. The wines from McLaren Vale in 2018 are of excellent quality, showing plenty of fruit character as well as great finesse.

## REVIEWS

*"AN INKY DEEP RED WITH PURPLE HUES IN THE GLASS, THE NOSE SHOWS THE TRAPPINGS OF QUALITY NEW OAK THAT GIVES CEDAR TO GENEROUS PLUM AND BLACKBERRY. THE IMPACT OF NEW OAK IS SIGNIFICANT ON THE PALATE, AND IT GIVES BOTH A SHEATH OF SPICE, BUT ALSO SAVOURY OAK DERIVED TANNINS. AS THE WINE OPENS UP, MILK CHOCOLATE ADDS TO THE LAYERS OF INTEREST BEFORE THE FINISH GLISTENS WITH DRYING PLUM AND EARTHEN BUT LIGHTLY SPICED TANNINS."* - Patrick Eckel - 93 Points

