

# SHINGLEBACK

MCLAREN VALE

## 2020 SHINGLEBACK D BLOCK RESERVE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

### THE DAVEY ESTATE VINEYARD

The Davey Estate Vineyard is located in Whites Valley, at the southern end of the acclaimed McLaren Vale wine region in South Australia. Kym and John Davey planted & nurture their family-owned and sustainably managed estate vineyard on land their grandfather purchased in the 1950's. Their goal is to produce high-quality, single vineyard wines. Modern viticultural practices that minimise work to the soil & encourage a balanced environment are used. Superior fruit is grown by managing canopies, hand-pruning, precise deficit irrigation & integrated pest management.

### VINTAGE NOTE

Despite a very dry August a wet July in 2019 brought winter rainfall (233mm) close to the average. The relatively cool winter resulted in mid-September budburst, more in line with long term averages. Good rainfall in September was followed by a dry October and November. A record hot spring day on 20th of November (39.9 C) followed by several days of very high winds affected cultivars flowering at the time, such as Cabernet Sauvignon, reducing berry set. Hotter than average spring temperatures along with a very hot December and high evaporation meant strategic and timely early irrigation was critical in setting up vine growth and maximizing fruit quality. The upside of these conditions was very low levels of pest and disease. McLaren Vale was fortunate to be unaffected by the devastating fires across many regions.

The season turned on the 4th of January and the following months were cooler than average. A timely rain in early February revived vines without causing berry splitting. Harvest started mid-February on Pinot Noir for Rosé. Chardonnay and Fiano were picked by the end of the month. Starting with Tempranillo and Shiraz, reds were picked from the end of February to the end of March. Cool conditions allowed a steady and calm progression through harvest despite the challenges of Covid 19 restrictions.

Our reliable region and resources, including our very talented vineyard and winery teams, have resulted in 2020 Shingleback wines of excellent quality and generally only slightly lower quantity.

### WINEMAKING

Two great McLaren Vale Cabernet Sauvignon blocks combine harmoniously; one, a Reynella clone planted east west in 1982 on loam and the other, a CW44 clone planted north south in 1999 on red clay. Gentle cap management, through traditional open fermentation, protects and nurtures the unique qualities of the terroir. Very fine grained French oak hogsheads are used to allow a long, slow maturation of the wine and subtle oak integration. A combination of new and 1- 6-year-old oak barrels, crafted by select coopers to our requirements are used to create nuances and diversity of flavour.

### VINEYARD

GA & LS Petrucci (Reynella clone)	Hill Block (1982)	Cabernet Sauvignon
Davey Estate (CW44 clone)	Block P (1999)	Cabernet Sauvignon

Variety: 100% McLaren Vale Cabernet Sauvignon  
Alcohol: 14.6%  
TA: 6.62 g/L  
pH: 3.65

### TASTING NOTE

Medium-deep plum red. Pretty aromas of blackcurrant and crystallised violet are complemented with notes of wet slate and bay leaf. Cassis and blueberry flavours flow through the long, linear, medium-to-full bodied palate. Seamlessly balanced, with harmonious fine-grained tannins and subtle notes of French oak. A contemporary McLaren Vale Cabernet Sauvignon that expresses the synergy of this noble variety, the terroir and my personal winemaking philosophy and will reward careful cellaring.

